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# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## HIV infections on rise in SF

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's HIV epidemiologists and researchers gathered in a City Hall conference room last Friday, January 19, and after much discussion, reached consensus that among men who have sex with men, preliminary estimates are that HIV incidence rates within that population have risen to 2.2 percent per year.

With an estimated citywide population of 46,800 men who have sex with men (but excluding gay and bisexual intravenous drug users), the 2.2 percent incidence rate would mean approximately 748 new HIV infections in the city, said Willi McFarland, an epidemiologist with the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

The conference, known as the HIV Consensus Meeting, was a daylong attempt to arrive at figures for HIV incidence rates in the city, though they are by no means absolute. The last time a formal consensus meeting was held, in 1997, the incidence among gay and bisexual men was 1.04 percent; the estimated population of MSMs was also lower – 39,000.

None of those participating in the meeting were surprised by the apparent increase in HIV infections among gay and bisexual men, though most agreed that they needed to come up with a conservative estimate.

"What's most clear is that it's up," said Tom Coates, director of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies and the AIDS Research Institute at the University of California, San Francisco, "but by how much is it up? My preference is to be as conservative as possible. We have to worry about the numbers being defensible. There's no evidence that it [HIV incidence rate] is lower than 1.8 percent."

While nothing was finalized at last week's meeting – indeed, the panel did not even finish arriving at consensus for HIV incidence rates among the non-MSM IDUs, heterosexuals, or transgenders – the group is expected to issue a draft report soon that will be available for public comment, according to Mike Shriver, the mayor's HIV/AIDS policy adviser. The draft document will be "widely distributed," Shriver said, and be posted on the Internet.

The group reached a hurried consensus that the HIV incidence rate for male-to-female transgenders is 7.8 percent, a figure much higher than the 2.81 percent in 1997. The new figure was based on data that estimated the MTF population at 3,000, with 13 seroconversions.

Susan Buchbinder, with DPH, explained a recent series of cohort studies.



Tom Coates



Former political prisoner Linda Evans, right, with her partner Eve Goldberg, shortly after her release from federal prison on Saturday.

## Free at last Political prisoner granted clemency, released to SF

by Katie Szymanski

"Because I am a lesbian – because I will never tolerate racism or injustice – because I love liberation and believe in the right to self determination – because I hate the imperialist system – I became a revolutionary. All of us have reasons in our own lives to fight for a better world; daring to struggle can make that vision real."

This quote from Linda Evans has been included in various publications, Web sites, and events dedicated to gaining freedom for America's political prisoners. And while the battle for justice continues, Evans will now be fighting the powers that be from outside prison walls, thanks to a last-minute clemency granted by President Clinton on January 20.

In a statement released January 22, Evans said, "At the moment I am probably the happiest person on earth, and the saddest, because of all the comrades I left inside. I'll continue to fight for freedom for Leonard Peltier, Mumia Abu-Jamal, my dear comrade Marilyn Buck, and all the political prisoners and prisoners of war who have suffered for decades in U.S. prisons. I have been queer all my life, and am proud of it."

"We're out of our minds happy," Debra Katz, a civil rights attorney with the Washington, D.C. firm Bernabei and Katz, told the Bay Area Reporter. Katz, who represented Evans for the past 13 years, believed Evans was an "excellent candidate" for clemency but

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## Thousands protest Bush inauguration

by Liz Highleyman

Last Saturday, January 20, an estimated 15,000 people gathered in San Francisco to protest the inauguration of President George W. Bush. The crowd of demonstrators – the largest seen in San Francisco in many years – gathered outside of City Hall at noon and marched through Hayes Valley to a rally at Jefferson Park. At one point the demonstration was so large that protesters at the beginning of the march could glance down side streets to see the tail end of the march still in progress several blocks away.

A large number of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender protesters were on hand, helping to make up one of the most diverse and multicultural actions in recent memory. The march was primarily organized by the In-

ternational Action Center, a group that focuses on racial justice issues. But demonstrators came out to call attention to issues spanning the gamut from the environment to labor to abortion to the death penalty. There were diehard Democrats mourning the loss of their candidate Al Gore, democracy proponents enraged by the U.S. Supreme Court's intervention in the November election, Greens who opposed both the Democratic and the Republican parties, and anarchists who decried the current political system in its entirety.

Many signs proclaimed "Hail to the Thief," and branded Bush as "President Select." The crowd's favorite float featured Bush in a rolling bed with Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Sandra Day O'Connor.

By 2 p.m., the official, permitted march had reached Jefferson Park at Turk and Laguna streets, where the majority of the demon-

strators remained to listen to speakers.

A group of several hundred, however, with a bicycle towing a sound system and a banner proclaiming "The Only Party We Support is a Street Party," continued the march, blocking the major intersection at Van Ness and Market streets and continuing to the downtown shopping district. At Powell Street, protesters occupied the cable car turnaround where they staged an impromptu rave, much to the amusement of a large crowd of shoppers and tourists. Several demonstrators entered and blocked entrance to the Gap store at Powell and Market, protesting the company's use of sweat shop labor. Police on horseback and on foot gathered information, but the demonstrators dispersed without incident and no arrests were reported. ▼



An estimated 15,000 people gathered Saturday in Civic Center to protest Bush's inauguration.

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS






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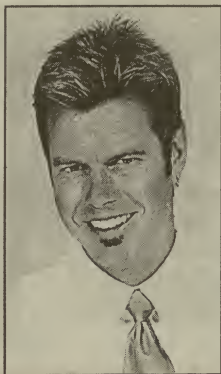
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## Bare Chest Calendar's big boost



**S**teve Corrigan, left, of Golden Brands Distributors, presents a check for \$32,000 to representatives from the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Positive Resource Center at a January 11 event. The funds are the proceeds from the popular 2001 Bare Chest Calendar.

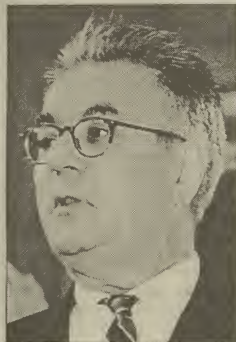
## Frank files bill to carry out Cheney policy

by Cynthia Laird

**C**ongressman Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) on Wednesday filed legislation to comply with the policy on the definition of marriage expressed by Vice President Dick Cheney in his debate last year with Senator Joseph Lieberman.

In that debate, when asked by moderator Bernard Shaw whether "a male who loves a male or a female who loves a female have all — all — the constitutional rights enjoyed by every American citizen?" Cheney, a former defense secretary whose daughter, Mary, is an open lesbian, replied in part, "... and I think that means that people should be free to enter into any kind of relationship they want to enter into ... the next step, then, of course, is the question you ask of whether or not there ought to be some kind of official sanction, if you will, of the relationship, or if those relationships should be treated the same way a conventional marriage is. That's a tougher problem ... I think the fact of the matter, of course, is that matter is regulated by the states. I think different states are likely to come to different conclusions, and that's appropriate. I don't think there should necessarily be a federal policy in this area."

"I was pleased when Secretary



Rep. Barney Frank

Cheney made those comments during the campaign," Frank said, "and I said so at the time. Unfortunately, as I also noted at the time, the law misnamed the 'Defense of Marriage Act,' which Congress adopted in 1996 and President Clinton signed into law, contradicts Vice President Cheney's position on this issue."

Frank stated that Section 3 of DOMA is "directly contrary to Vice President Cheney's position that this matter should be regulated by the states, and establishes a national definition of marriage, stating that 'in determining the meaning of any act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or in-

terpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word marriage means only a legal union between one man and one woman."

Frank said he has filed legislation to repeal the section of DOMA that contradicts Cheney's position.

"I should note that I offered an amendment to strike this provision in 1996 when the House considered the bill," Frank added, "and while it was heavily defeated, it did receive 35 more votes than were cast in opposition to the overall DOMA."

The congressman said that enacting his legislation would not affect the other section of DOMA that purports to allow one state to refuse to recognize any other state's decision on same-sex marriage. "That is a separate legal and constitutional question," he said.

"Indeed, the purpose of this bill is not to impose any state's decision on another state, but rather, in the spirit of Vice President Cheney's statement, to allow each state to make its own decision in this matter without fearing that its decision will be disregarded by the federal government."

"I will be looking for other areas of agreement between myself and high-ranking members of the Bush administration on which we can work together," Frank concluded. ▼

## Adult Eagle Scouts are targets, too

by Katie Szymanski

**P**erhaps officials at the Boy Scouts of America intended to discriminate only against homosexuals, but their far-reaching policies may get them more than they bargained for, if Fort Lauderdale resident and Eagle Scout Mark LaFontaine sticks around.

In an unprecedented move, the National Eagle Scout Association — the adult alumni organization

for Eagle Scouts — granted and then quickly revoked the membership of the openly gay LaFontaine within the last month.

NESA's reasoning, according to a letter and membership refund check sent last week, is that LaFontaine is not a Boy Scouts of America member in good standing, a term that usually means one has paid his dues, since Eagle Scouts (a title LaFontaine earned in 1983) are considered "scouts for life." LaFontaine, an "avowed homosexual" known for vocally

challenging BSA policies, cannot be kicked out of an organization he has earned lifelong membership in, but he can be denied a scouting leadership role, which is encouraged when one is a member of NESA. But is it required?

In order to challenge NESA's nullification of his membership, according to the letter of revocation, LaFontaine must challenge BSA's decision not to grant him a leadership role, which he applied for in September. His appeal will

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# SF AIDS cases, deaths continue to decline

by Katie Szymanski

San Francisco in the year 2000 saw its smallest number of AIDS deaths since 1983, and within the last year the disease among transgenders declined by half, according to the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Quarterly AIDS Surveillance Report, a collection of data that has documented AIDS cases for the past 20 years.

The latest report, issued last week, shows some new and continuing trends, as well as the inevitable grisly facts: while AIDS diagnoses and deaths are on the decline nationwide, more than half of all known PWAs have indeed died from related complications.

AIDS diagnoses — cases where people with HIV have developed AIDS-defining conditions such as a rare form of pneumonia or a low CD4 T-lymphocyte count — went from 2,334 San Franciscans in 1990 to 442 such cases in 2000.

AIDS deaths were also less frequent, as even people whose immune systems are sufficiently compromised are living longer than they used to. Within the first five years of the past decade, for instance, 10,422 people died, leaving 7,464 PWAs alive in this city by the end of 1995. In the five years that followed, there were 2,514 deaths, and 8,806 PWAs remained living in San Francisco at the end of 2000. Last year alone, just 208 AIDS deaths occurred here; a lower number has not been seen since 1983 when 136 people, or half the known AIDS population, succumbed to complications.

In the bigger picture, the country has now seen 753,907 AIDS

cases and 438,795 deaths, while California has recorded 119,900 cases and 73,544 deaths. San Francisco, comparatively, reported 27,332 cases since 1980, and 18,526 deaths.

As the numbers have dropped in general, so too, has AIDS lessened in gay/bisexual male communities. Before 1990, for instance, men who have sex with men (without other risk factors like intravenous drug use) accounted for 82.9 percent of the city's AIDS incidence. From 1990-95, this population hovered between 73 and 79 percent of those who had AIDS. But last year just 60.9 percent of the city's cases occurred in gay men with no other high-risk activities, which means that gay men may one day no longer make up the majority of AIDS cases in San Francisco.

On the flip side, women have continued to make up a larger proportion of AIDS cases in the city, going from 2.9 percent of all cases in 1990, to 8.7 percent in 1999, to 10.6 percent for 2000. Information on transgenders was not collected until 1996, but shows that the population accounted for 16 people, or 2.8 percent of the city's AIDS cases in 1999, but now represents just 8 cases, or 1.8 percent. In other queer circles, gay and bisexual men who use IV drugs have remained pretty steady throughout the years; this double-risk population began the decade accounting for 12.2 percent of AIDS cases and ended 2000 with a 12.4 percent showing. Interestingly, IV drug users who identify as heterosexual have seen their conditions worsen, from constituting 5.3 percent of all AIDS cases in 1990 to ending 2000 as 18.3 percent of

those diagnosed.

The disease has also continued to rise in communities of color, according to the report. African Americans, for instance, made up 11.2 percent of San Francisco's AIDS cases in 1990, 19.5 percent in 1999, and came in at 21 percent for the year 2000. Latinos, at 9.4 percent of the epidemic in 1990 and 16.5 percent for 1999, are now 16.7 percent of reported cases. In all, whites have gone from being 75.7 percent of AIDS cases in 1990 to 57 percent today, where people of color have jumped from representing 24.3 percent of AIDS cases in 1990 to 43 percent of all cases in the city today.

As a whole, the new AIDS numbers should have a significant impact for the future of research and treatment, according to DPH Surveillance Unit Director Sandy Schwarcz.

"Overall we see a continued decline in the incidence of AIDS and AIDS deaths, and a continued increase in the number of persons living with AIDS," said Schwarcz. "These trends are important because of the increase in the number of persons living with AIDS. Issues that could benefit from more research are how infectious are persons with AIDS who are on HAART, and what are the current risk behaviors of persons living with AIDS?"

An even more articulate question, according to Schwarcz, would ask how HAART has influenced the time between HIV infection and development of AIDS.

"This is important because we used to estimate that the number of people with HIV was equal to the number of people of AIDS, but we are less sure now," said Schwarcz. ▽

## Another study provides more evidence of dangers of N-9

by Ed Walsh

Just say no to nonoxynol-9. You've heard the warnings before. Now, a recent study is providing more evidence of the dangers of the spermicide that was once touted as an HIV preventive.

In a study conducted for The Population Council of New York, researchers tested two commercially available lubricants containing N-9: K-Y Plus and ForPlay, on four people. The products were compared with two other lubricants that did not contain N-9. The lubricants were applied to the rectums of the individuals and the rectal cavity was washed out.

The results were startling.

Sheets of hundreds of epithelial cells, which provide a protective membrane in the anus, were stripped away in the people using the products containing N-9. By contrast, no epithelial cells were lost from the test subjects using the lubricants free of N-9.

"It is reasonable to assume that the loss of the protective epithelium would render a person more at risk for infection by HIV and other sexually transmitted pathogens. We, therefore, caution against the use of N-9-containing products during rectal inter-

course," wrote the researchers in the report published in the September 2000 edition of the journal *Contraception*.

In a previous study, the same researchers showed that the use of N-9 lubricants in mice produced similar results.

A study presented during the 13th International AIDS Conference in South Africa last summer found that commercial sex workers who used a lubricating gel containing N-9 contracted HIV at a rate 50 percent higher than those who used a placebo gel. The study was conducted on 1,000 women in several parts of Africa. The women in both the N-9 and placebo group were instructed to carefully use a condom during intercourse.

Although the concentration of N-9 used in the African study was much higher than what is found in products commercially available in the United States, the report prompted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to issue a letter cautioning against the use of N-9.

"This study suggests that the use of N-9 for HIV prevention may be harmful. Second, anyone currently using N-9 as a microbicide to protect themselves from HIV transmission during anal in-

tercourse should be informed of the ineffectiveness of this agent and warned of the potential risk of this practice," wrote Dr. Helene D. Gayle, the CDC's director of the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention.

The message of the dangers of N-9 appear to be finally getting through to consumers, retailers, and manufacturers.

As the *Bay Area Reporter* previously reported, the retailer Good Vibrations pulled N-9 products off its shelves several years ago in response to the early studies reporting its danger. The manager of Jaguar Books, Ben Couly, told the B.A.R. last week that the store plans to discontinue selling products containing N-9 after its current supply runs out. Couly added that Jaguar has a posted warnings about N-9 and that employees are instructed to advise anyone who buys it of the risks.

The communications director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Gustavo Suárez, told the B.A.R. that the foundation strongly recommends against N-9 containing products. He also urged retailers who market to gay men to stop selling lubricants and condoms containing N-9.

"It would be the more responsible thing to do," said Suárez. ▽

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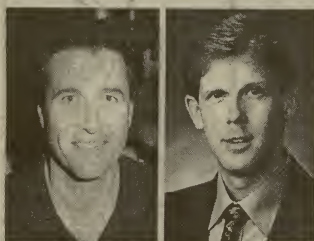
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# KXTV moves Dr. Laura to graveyard; protest Web site shuts down

by Dan Aiello

Finally joining stations in the top 10 U.S. markets, Sacramento's ABC affiliate KXTV has moved the *Dr. Laura* show from its afternoon time slot preceding *Oprah* to 2 a.m., a time slot referred to by television stations as "the graveyard." KXTV is one of the last stations to change the show's air time, a move that many predict is a precursor to *Dr. Laura*'s television cancellation, although Paramount has yet to make any announcements.

Not coincidentally, founders of StopDrLaura.com proclaimed victory over Laura Schlessinger's bigoted views and announced this week that they are shutting down the Web site that was instrumental in galvanizing opposition to Schlessinger and her hate-filled remarks against homosexuals.

In a letter e-mailed to supporters, John Aravosis announced the end of the StopDrLaura.com Web site. "Nearly a year ago, a group of friends and I launched a small, six-page Web site called StopDrLaura.com. Little did we know at the time that our pro bono weekend project would turn into a high-profile international crusade for civil rights," he stated.

According to Aravosis, since its

launch on March 1, 2000, StopDrLaura.com has received over 60 million hits, averaging 300,000 visitors per month, and according to its founder, ultimately galvanized a worldwide grassroots "uprising" that convinced over 150 advertisers in the U.S. and Canada to drop Schlessinger's TV and radio shows. The Web site co-founder also claimed that the site persuaded "the entire nation of Canada to dump the show," as well.

While the *Dr. Laura* television show is still on the air in many U.S. markets, and Paramount has yet to announce that the show won't be coming back next fall, the program has been "banished to the wee morning hours in all the top 10 markets, her ratings are abysmal, and she can get few advertisers any better than that lady with the tarot cards," explained Aravosis.

This week, citing ratings, KXTV joined in exiling Laura Schlessinger's show. Just weeks earlier, however, KXTV scheduling director Kevin Williams stated that *Dr. Laura* was faring well in the ratings war against *Ricki Lake* and a soap opera. Because of the boycott, however, the show could never attract national advertisers.

"Face it folks, we all came together and we stopped Dr. Laura,"

said Aravosis.

StopDrLaura.com co-founders included Joel Lawson, William Waybourn, Alan Klein, and Robin Tyler. The Human Rights Campaign also donated to the site. Hollywood celebrities David Lee and the gang at *Fraiser*, Susan Sarandon, Bruce Vilanch, Christopher Landon, and former Congresswoman Pat Schroeder were among those who supported the fight against Schlessinger.

In his letter, Aravosis said that he's especially thankful to all the supporters who "answered the call against a prominent celebrity [Laura Schlessinger] who thought it was okay to tell 20 million Americans and Canadians a day that an entire class of human beings were biological errors. Someone had to stand up to the bully," he said.

Looking back on it, StopDrLaura.com may be one of the few dot-com success stories of the year 2000. As one of the first articles about the site described it: It is the first Web site designed expressly to become obsolete.

However, Aravosis gave one final note of warning to Paramount, Schlessinger, and her continuing advertisers: "We may have gone below the radar screen, but we're still here, we're still queer, and we will always be watching. You can count on it." ▼

# Apply now for queer youth scholarships

by Katie Szymanski

Even in the anti-corporate environment of today's youth activism, it pays to cozy up to the big guys every now and then, as The LEAGUE Foundation of AT&T is about to award its fifth round of annual college scholarships to queer youth who give their services to the community.

LEAGUE — which used to stand for lesbian and gay united employees, until "bi" and "trans" were added and threw off the acronym — is the nation's first and largest LGBT employee business resource group, launched by AT&T employees in 1987. The group's yearly scholarships, now a tradition, are available to high school students about to enter col-

lege, as well as current college students. Three scholarships are offered — the Matthew Shepard Scholarship, named for the murdered Wyoming student; the Ed Chilcott Memorial Scholarship, named for a beloved employee; and the general scholarship. Each award generally grants \$1,000 to \$2,500; applicants need not specify which award they are going for, as that is decided by the reviewing committee. And to ease your conscience about accepting corporate dough, LEAGUE is entirely employee-run, with no financial support from the company, which means the scholarships awarded actually come from hard-earned fundraising by our very own peers.

Scholarship applicants should identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender; have a cumulative

grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; have been accepted or enrolled in an accredited college or university; and be actively and substantially involved in community service.

"We require community service, which we look at as a positive thing," said Charles Eader, a spokesperson for LEAGUE. "This way, we know that by our giving, the community can receive contributions two-fold."

The deadline to apply for scholarships is Saturday, February 17, and more information on that process is available online at [www.LEAGUE-att.org](http://www.LEAGUE-att.org). Those interested in donating to the scholarship fund should send tax deductible checks to LEAGUE at AT&T Foundation, P.O. Box 57237, Washington, D.C. 20037-7237, or call (703) 713-7820. ▼

## Eagle Scouts

◀ page 2

go through the Southern regional office and then to the national headquarters for review, and is based on his lifelong membership in the organization and the fact that he has earned scouting's highest honor. But NESA itself doesn't seem to hold its other members to that standard, as the adult organization simply asks that members attain the rank of Eagle Scout, which LaFontaine did

18 years ago.

What LaFontaine wants NESA to state — in writing — is whether all NESA members must also be BSA members, "because I know thousands of heterosexual NESA men who are not active and do not pay dues to BSA," LaFontaine told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

He just may push both organizational bodies to clarify and codify their discrimination for the books, a move that could affect many people regardless of their sexual orientation.

"It's time that they really un-

derstood for themselves what their new policy means. I can't believe in this day and age they've allowed themselves to get to this point," said LaFontaine. "Sexuality has never been a part of scouting, and it was never even an issue until they made it one."

In the meantime, LaFontaine will not accept NESA's decision, and has returned a refund check to the group with the message that he considers himself a member.

"They cashed a check and sent me an invitation," he said, "and in my mind, that's a contract." ▼



# SF Pride announces upcoming deadlines

by Katie Szymanski

Just when you were set to wallow in the winter blues, the San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration Committee is asking you to think about the summer. June, to be precise. There's much to be done in preparation for the 31st annual Pride fest, from brandishing a stylish look, to acquiring talent, to honoring heroes.

The first announcement to be made is that the committee has decided upon a new logo for the festival's theme this year, "Queerific." The logo was chosen



from a public competition in which local designer Jason Fain stood out among all the entries.

The next item of business for Pride is a reminder to the public that grand marshal nominations are due by this Wednesday, January 31.

Catalog your brain and sort through your little black book, but don't miss an opportunity to have your favorite community member recognized. Nomination forms and mailing instructions are available online.

Also, for those interested in having a booth at Pride, the deadline for free nonprofit space is April 2, and commercial business-

es looking for a 10 percent early registration discount must book their tables before March 1. These applications are also available on the Pride Committee's Web site.

Finally, Pride has put out the word that performers are needed for the 10 different stages at this year's celebration. Artists, musicians, singers, and the like are invited to submit material for review by March 30; all submissions will receive a final reply by April 12 and those selected for the main stage will be paid union wages as a guaranteed minimum fee. Interested talent should mail a work sample, photo, and short biography to the San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration Committee, 1390 Market Street #903, San Francisco, CA 94102.

As always, more information about Pride can be found at [www.sfpd.org](http://www.sfpd.org). ▼

## Where are the men?

Program to address HIV risk factors

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco has no shortage of gay and bisexual men, yet an increasing number of men report that they feel alone and that it is difficult to make "real" friends here.

The city's high cost of living and frenzied economy may be part of the reason. "There's a constant flow of people moving in and out of the city. And those who are here are so busy just trying to afford to stay that they're left feeling disconnected," said Michael Discepolo, manager of REACH, a counseling program of the University of California, San Francisco's AIDS Health Project.

The feeling of disconnection can lead people to withdraw socially, or, conversely, to turn to sex as a way to re-connect. Discepolo said that, in an attempt to draw closer or to avoid the challenges of negotiating safer sex, people may be more likely to engage in unprotected sex. Reports of new cases of HIV infection have cited an increase in unprotected sex among gay men, he explained.

REACH, or risk evaluation and counseling for health, is launching several new services in an effort to address this issue. For gay and bisexual men who are HIV-negative or who have

never tested, REACH is adding new support groups, which meet in the evenings once a week for 12 weeks. These groups give men a place to talk about such topics as sex, HIV risk-taking, alcohol and other drug use, intimacy, isolation, and dating.

"A lot of people don't have a way to talk about risk-taking or what's going on for them," said Marshall Feldman, coordinator of REACH risk-reduction coun-

and meet at the AHP Services Center, 1930 Market Street, near Laguna. Other REACH group services include a support group for people dealing with substance-use concerns, a group for couples in mixed HIV status relationships, and monthly workshops. REACH also offers risk-reduction counseling for individuals who are HIV-negative, and risk-reduction counseling for mixed HIV status couples. To

**"In our support groups, guys have a chance to talk, to understand that they're not alone, and to begin to learn how to get more of what they want in life."**

selling. "In our support groups, guys have a chance to talk, to understand that they're not alone, and to begin to learn how to get more of what they want in life."

Also this year, for all gay and bisexual men, regardless of HIV status, REACH will offer two new four-week "work groups" focused on a single topic. The first will explore intimacy; the other will deal with concerns about high-risk sex.

All of these groups are free

learn more about REACH groups, call John Tighe at (415) 502-7579.

REACH is one of several programs offered by AHP. Other services include crisis support, time-limited psychotherapy, and more than 35 weekly support groups for people with HIV. AHP has been providing HIV-related counseling services since 1984. For more information about any AHP service, call (415) 476-3902. ▼

## Youth Commission to hold housing hearing

by Katie Szymanski

With all the talk about youth homelessness and housing issues, it admittedly gets boring listening to adults speak for and about the younger generation. Therefore, the first town hall meeting to highlight the issue as city youth see it will take place this Tuesday, January 30, in the Legislative Chamber, Room 250, at City Hall.

The meeting is sponsored by the San Francisco Youth Commis-

sion, an advisory committee of young people who work with city officials on policy matters. It will be attended by a wide range of community members, including Youth Commission members, legislators like Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, kids from local shelters and organizations, and George Smith, director of the Mayor's Office on Homelessness.

"It's an opportunity for youth to come to City Hall and say, 'Listen up, there's a problem here,'" said Youth Commissioner Anthony Valdez, 16. "We're hoping this

meeting will affect policy, especially considering there's a brand new Board of Supervisors who are likely to listen to what people have to say."

A report with recommendations will be drafted based on testimony at the meeting, and this information will be made available for budget and policy negotiations with regard to housing issues and the impact on youth.

Tuesday's meeting is from 5 to 7 p.m. and is open to the public. For more information, call (415) 554-6446. ▼

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Mark Mardon  
Katie Szymanski

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
 Dan Aiello • Tavo Amador • Heidi Beeler  
 David Blanco • Erin Blackwell • John Blanco  
 Dan Blue • Victoria A. Brownworth  
 Philip Campbell • Chris Culwell • Richard Dadds  
 Nisa Donnelly • Liz Highleyman • Brandon Judell  
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 Stephanie von Buchau • Helen Vozenilek  
 Ed Walsh • Dick Walters

ART DIRECTION & DESIGN  
Adrian RobertsAD PRODUCTION & LAYOUT  
Scott KingPRODUCTION ASSISTANT  
Mike HardisonPHOTOGRAPHERS  
Jane Philomen Cieland • Dariene/PhotoGraphics  
Marc Geller • Rick GerharterILLUSTRATORS & CARTOONISTS  
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 http://www.ebar.com

**News Editor** • barpaper@aol.com  
**Arts Editor** • bararts@aol.com  
**Advertising** • baradv@aol.com

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## OPEN FORUM

## True colors emerge

It certainly didn't take long for President George W. Bush to shed his "compassionate conservative" mantra. On Monday – his first workday in office – the new president signed an executive order banning federal funds to international family planning groups that offer abortion or abortion counseling. The move came on the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and reinstates a ban lifted in 1993 by former President Clinton.

This latest effort to appease the religious right flies in the face of Bush's constant campaign theme of being a "compassionate conservative" and being a "uniter, not a divider." But we already knew those statements rang false.

Bush's action doesn't affect U.S. abortion law, but it does deeply affect thousands of people in other countries, whose clinics soon may no longer have the money necessary for basics like condoms, which means Bush may single-handedly be responsible for numerous unwanted children and HIV infections. And while Bush's reinstatement of the ban doesn't limit international organizations from treating injuries or illnesses caused by legal or illegal abortions, it prohibits the allocation of U.S. funds to groups who support abortion by performing the procedure, offering abortion counseling, or lobbying governments abroad.

We agree with Kate Michelman, president of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights League, when she said, "He so quickly shed his facade and his cloak of moderation on this issue."

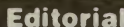
In a related matter, Senate Democrats voted to delay the Senate Judiciary Committee's vote on attorney general nominee John Ashcroft. It was the right move. For awhile, we were worried that Democrats would bow to Republican pressure to approve Ashcroft's nomination without much of a fight. During his tense confirmation hearings last week, Ashcroft said he would uphold laws he

does not agree with, even *Roe v. Wade*. Those comments prompted California Senator Diane Feinstein (D) – who announced Wednesday that she would vote against Ashcroft – to publicly question whether Ashcroft was changing his long held opposition to abortion and other issues in order to win Senate confirmation. In other words, was Ashcroft simply saying what the Democrats on the committee wanted to hear? We believe that to be the case.

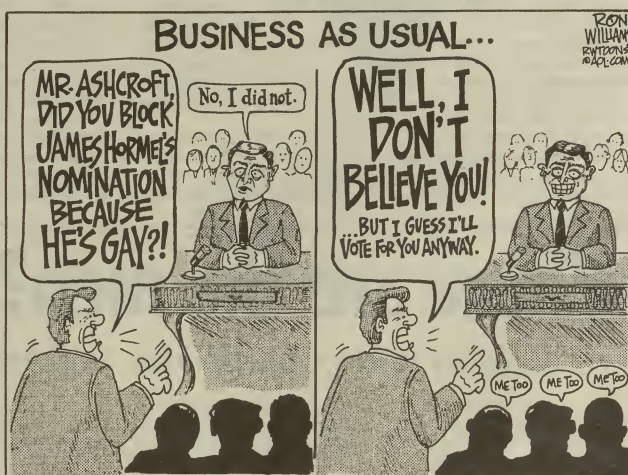
The weeklong delay gives groups opposed to Ashcroft more time to build their case, as well as Ashcroft time to answer hundreds of questions that senators have submitted to

him in writing. In a not-so-strange twist of fate, Senate Democrats are doing what Ashcroft himself did when he was on the Judiciary Committee: delaying votes on judicial and political nominees. One of his well-known attacks was directed against James Hormel, the gay San Franciscan whose ambassadorship was held up and blocked by the Senate for more than a year; it was only through a recess appointment by Clinton that Hormel assumed the diplomatic post in Luxembourg, which came to an end earlier this month.

We do not believe that Ashcroft is qualified to serve as attorney general, and we urge the Senate to vote against his confirmation. ▼



Editorial



## Gay media monopoly looming

by Henry E. Scott

You have an opportunity to help halt an effort to create a dangerous monopoly among gay media.

Most of you already are aware of Liberation Publication's purchase of *Out* magazine from Out Publishing Inc. That purchase this past spring united the nation's two largest gay and lesbian magazines – the *Advocate* and *Out* – under one owner. The combined circulation of the two magazines is nearly 200,000, easily five times larger than that of the nearest competitor.

Readers already have seen the deleterious effects of this combination. Liberation, run by a heterosexual businessman, has slashed the size of *Out*'s editorial staff and put both magazines under the control of the same editor, who dictates which magazine covers what in weekly conference calls. Thus *Out*'s sometimes cranky and contrary voice (remember the post-gay debate?) has been silenced. Lest you think my past association with *Out* makes me a biased observer, consider the observations of Chris Crain, a frequent critic of my tenure at *Out*, who wrote about the media monopoly in the November 16 issue of *Southern Voice*. Crain argued that the magazines have begun to resemble one another. "There are even signs that being king of the mountain is tempting Advo-Out into censoring dissent," he said, citing Liberation editor Judy Weider's decision to cancel a piece on AIDS commissioned from writer Andrew Sullivan after he wrote critically about an *Advocate* interview with President Clinton.

This combination has been bad. But an even more alarming combination looms. On November 16, PlanetOut and Gay.com, the largest online services aimed at a lesbian and gay audience, announced their plan to merge. PlanetOut earlier had announced a letter of intent to acquire Liberation and through it both the *Advocate* and *Out*. In their announcement, the companies claimed: "The merger of the two largest businesses serving the LGBT market will

create a global media and services company that immediately reaches more than 3.5 million unique individuals a month and counts more than 1.6 million registered users." That means the combined PlanetOut/Gay.com would be seven times larger than its nearest competitor, Gaywired.com, which claims 500,000 unique users a month.

Why should we care?

The chief reason for alarm is that this combination threatens to further diminish the opportunity for vigorous debate over issues of politics and culture and style that is our community's greatest strength. Such debate is especially important because solutions to the enormous political and social issues we face require all the creativity and ingenuity we can muster. And monopolies don't foster debate, much less creativity and ingenuity.

Secondarily, if you are an advertiser of goods or services or points of view, this combination threatens to eliminate the competition that holds down advertising rates. Indeed, PlanetOut, which claims to have the largest gay and lesbian personals ad database, already is rumored to be considering levying a charge for this formerly free service. Such a charge probably wouldn't be possible if PlanetOut had to contend with competition from free personals on Gay.com.

And finally, if PlanetOut proceeds with its acquisition of Liberation, essentially all nationwide lesbian and gay media outlets will be under the control of one company. PlanetOut already has acquired *Out* & About, the respected gay and lesbian travel newsletter and online site. Gay.com in March 1999 bought a stake in and subsumed OnQ, once the nation's second-largest online service after PlanetOut. And Gay.com announced last August that it had purchased a stake in Gay Financial Network (gfn.com), with which it jointly sells advertising.

Indeed, the chief beneficiaries of this merger are likely to be the large financial institutions that have backed PlanetOut and Gay.com's parent, Online Partners. Major investors in Gay.com include Chase Capital Partners, a venture of Chase Bank; Flatiron Partners, the large Internet investment fund; and IDG Ventures, which is associated with one of America's largest publishers of computer magazines. Major investors in PlanetOut include Silicon Valley's Mayfield Fund, AOL Investments, UK-based Eden Capital, BMG Entertainment, and Creative Artists Agency.

So what can you do about this?

There are two government agencies equally charged under Section 7 of the Clayton Act with reviewing mergers to ensure that they do not "lessen competition, or ... tend to create a monopoly." Those agencies are the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice. I urge you to write each agency asking it review the proposed PlanetOut/Gay.com merger on antitrust grounds. These agencies aren't likely to be swayed by arguments about the stalling of debate in our community. They are charged with ensuring vigorous commercial competition. Below you'll find both the e-mail and mailing addresses of each agency.

If we move quickly, we may be able to prevent or undo this monopolistic consolidation of our community's leading national media. ▼

**Where to write:** U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 601 D Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530; (202) 514-3543; e-mail: newcase.atr@usdoj.gov. Federal Trade Commission, Office of Policy and Evaluation, Bureau of Competition, Room 394, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; e-mail: antitrust@ftc.gov.

## Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## AIDS is getting worse

Did anyone see the 60 Minutes episode last Sunday about gays and AIDS? It was a frightening picture which will throw meat to the Republican lions.

I turned the TV on and there it was. Had I known it was to be on, I would have recorded it. The two jerks from ACT UP/SF were on — dressed up in white shirts and ties. Trying to look conservative or decent or Mormon, I suppose.

AIDS is getting worse, in part, because of those two.

James Martin  
Burlingame, California

## Gym closing clarified

As general manager of the Muscle System gyms, I must object strenuously to the letter last week by Eddy Gordillo. About the only thing he had right is the sadness we all feel at the closing of our gym on Hayes Street. Otherwise, the rest of his assertions constituted half truths at best, and wild innuendo at worst, especially his comments regarding Trudy Drypolcher and Zephyr Realty. Bob Landy considered Bill Drypolcher, with whom he worked as a fellow Realtor for years, one of his best friends; hence, his naming Trudy Drypolcher executor of his will. In that will he left explicit instructions and Trudy is only following those instructions. She has worked closely with Alan Scopp, John Haas (manager of Muscle System Market Street), and I with much fairness and in no way deserves to be pilloried by Mr. Gordillo or anyone else.

As for the memo referred to in his letter, it was a composite effort written mostly by Alan, John, and myself. In it we have encouraged members of the Hayes Street gym to come over and give Market Street a try. For those who find this agreeable, a generous incentive has been offered. For those who feel they are not in a position to do this, after the closure of the Hayes Street gym, their membership information will be forwarded to Bob Landy's trust and to the Busacello's (the other family sharing ownership with Bob) for a prorated rebate consideration.

The staff at Hayes Street has also been offered a bonus if they stay until the closure. In the 25 years I have been associated with gyms in San Francisco, this is an unheard of courtesy. Often there is no notice of closure, memberships are taken through the final day, and members wake up the next morning to find their gym has gone out of business. This is not the case with the Muscle System. And through this entire difficult time, as anyone who knows me will tell you, I have openly made myself available to answer any and all questions regarding the gym's status. Why Mr. Gordillo did not avail himself I have no way of knowing. But both the managers of Hayes Street and Market Street have been aware of my open door policy from the beginning.

That behind me, I can only say our effort at consolidation and improvement is ongoing and the staff at Market Street is friendly and eager to serve not just Hayes Street members, but all members, whoever they may be. Just give us a try.

William Heter, General Manager  
Muscle System

## Not music to his ears

Having heard so much about the sing-a-long *Sound of Music*, I was thrilled to see that it was coming to the Castro Theatre this February for a two-week run. Then I saw the ticket price: \$22.50! You can buy the two-disc DVD for less than that. This kind of price gouging is especially upsetting when you consider that it is the audience that provides the entertainment. Although the opening night is a benefit for Frameline, the profits from all other performances are for the benefit of the producers, not the community.

If you think this ticket price is unreasonable, please express yourself to the producers. Ben Freedman's e-mail address is ben@bubblechamber.net. Co-producer Tom Lightburn can be e-mailed at tomlightburn@telus.net.

Brian Bringardner  
San Francisco

## Supe missing?

Am I missing something or did your proofreader miss it ("Tom Ammiano unanimously re-elected board president," January 11)? No mention of Tony Hall of District 7, who was inaugurated Monday, January 8 and received a four-year term.

Pensioned after a 39-year career with the San Francisco Unified School District, I worked on his campaign and am staying on as his voluntary aide and liaison to the LGBT community. Concerning the latter, my experiences predate Stonewall, going back to Hal Call and the Mattachine Society on Mission near Third. How many recall: Finilia's Baths on Market near Noe; Dolan's elegant upstairs lounge on Stockton near Sutter; Guy Strait and his photo studio south of Market — wasn't it he who began the first gay newspaper as a single page mimeographed sheet sold at local bars for 25 cents; the Council on Religion and the Homosexual that met at Glide; Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon and their Daughters of Bilitis on Mission, just

south of Cortland Avenue; SIR (Society for Individual Rights) on 6th near Mission; Gordon's Restaurant, where I attended scheduled dinner-lectures in the rear banquet room. Shall I continue? No, I must get this letter posted.

Keep up the good work.

Bill J. Johnson  
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Yes, Tony Hall's name was inadvertently omitted from the story. We ran a correction in the January 18 issue.]

## Leadership needed

The new Board of Supervisors made a wise decision in electing a president who does not feel obligated to automatically do whatever Willie Brown wants. Unfortunately, the supervisors made a bad decision in electing a president who is a whiner, not a leader. Maybe during this term Tom Ammiano will finally start demonstrating some leadership skills.

Bill Hanrahan  
San Francisco

## Bad attitude from Playgirl caller

The following letter was sent to Playgirl magazine:

On Friday evening, January 12, I received a telemarketing call from your magazine aimed at getting me to renew my subscription. Due to my work schedule, I have had little leisure time in which to enjoy your publication. I therefore politely informed your sales representative that I would not be renewing my subscription. Unlike most professional telemarketers (who might ask why I had chosen not to renew my subscription), your representative uttered only five words before disconnecting: "Another fag with no money!"

It's no secret that many gay men subscribe to Playgirl. The fact that you would allow someone with such a homophobic attitude to represent your publication means that your telemarketing efforts are dangerously counterproductive and out of control.

Your magazine is marketed toward consumers of male erotic images. That includes gay men. If your subscription renewal campaign is being run in-house, then the telemarketer who contacted me and his supervisor need to be disciplined. Your staff should undergo sensitivity training to better understand the demographics of your readership. If, as I suspect, your telemarketing efforts are being outsourced, then I urge you to cancel your contract with the agency handling your account and find another service provider whose employees are not predisposed to insulting and alienating your readers.

George Heymont  
San Francisco

## Feinstein urged to oppose Ashcroft

The following was sent to Senator Dianne Feinstein:

I am a Missourian living in California. I moved here a year and a half ago. Over the last six years I have been witness to how ideologically divisive my former senator, John Ashcroft, has been. He showed incredible insensitivity and a strong ability to wreak havoc with nominee after nominee during his six years in the Senate. One particularly striking episode was his successful derailment of Justice Ronnie White to the federal bench. This episode was, by far, one of the worst episodes of egregious name-calling and personal destruction ever witnessed by the Senate.

Missouri is a great state. I'm glad to be able to call it home. Missouri is a conservative state in many respects. Missouri rarely, if ever, votes someone out of office. However, after we Missourians watched Senator Ashcroft move further and further toward the right wing, taking personal and partisan attacks to new levels of extreme, and distancing himself from the real needs of his constituents, we proudly voted him out of office. We did so, even though our nominee, the late Governor Mel Carnahan, died three weeks before the election. We voted Senator Ashcroft out of office because he was simply too partisan and right-wing for our state.

In that vein, I ask you the following questions: If John Ashcroft is too conservative for Missouri, how can he be an appropriate representative as the nation's attorney general? And why should senators vote to confirm John Ashcroft to a higher office, when the will of the voters of the state of Missouri was for him to leave office? I ask that you use your leadership on the Senate Judiciary Committee to voice opposition to John Ashcroft's nomination and I urge you to vote against his confirmation to U.S. attorney general.

Reese Aaron Isbell  
San Francisco

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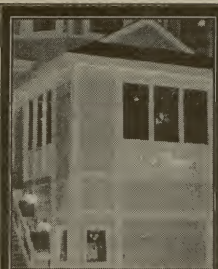
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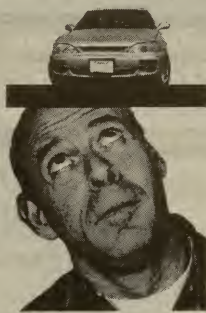
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PROUD TO SERVE AS PART OF THE GAY COMMUNITY SINCE 1978

# Hire the transgendered

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

**F**or those potential employers out there, let me give you a hot tip: hire the transgendered.

No, it isn't because you'll get any good tax cuts for doing so, and it's not simply because it would make this columnist happy. It's because transgendered people often need a good job, and can be very reliable workers – when given the chance.

When a transgendered individual finds an employer willing to give him a good job, he is unlikely to put that opportunity in jeopardy. We aren't likely to want to go back to combating the classifieds. I know that I've not seen too many job listings under a "transgender" heading in the back of the *Chronicle*.

Many of us have been a few steps from homelessness and really don't want to be back there. Me, for one.

When I first transitioned, I was lucky enough to keep my job – for awhile. Of course, once I was out of work, I got to discover just how difficult it really can be to find an opportunity while looking a little like one gender, and a little like another.

I cannot tell you how many interviews I've gone through since I transitioned. Certainly more than any one person really should. Even here, in an area where the newspapers have shouted for years about the dot-com employment boom, I've found the number of employers willing to give me a chance somewhat disheartening.

**After a while, I began to spot that moment in the interview when the potential employer decided that, in fact, he'd rather not have a transgendered woman on his staff. That moment when it seems like he would rather be asking "are you a man or a woman," rather than "how are your HTML skills?"**

After a while, I began to spot that moment in the interview when the potential employer decided that, in fact, he'd rather not have a transgendered woman on his staff. That moment when it seems like he would rather be asking "are you a man or a woman," rather than "how are your HTML skills?"

There were months where I simply did not know where the rent check would come from, or how we'd be able to keep the power flowing. I became well acquainted with macaroni and cheese during that time, and even that became a luxury.

This also explains why so many transgendered people have opted to remain closeted for so long. I even played that game during one job a few years back. I simply could not afford to be out of a job anymore and if it meant keeping a close eye on what I said and did, so be it. I wonder if I could go through that now – or would it just be a question of desperation?

I'm nowhere near the only transgendered person to have gone through some difficult times in the job market, and in many

ways I've had an easier time than others. For example, former high school teacher Dana Rivers, who was practically drop-kicked out of her job near Sacramento. An award-winning teacher, who was bringing in a sizable amount of money into her school, easily dismissed. It simply baffles my mind that – during a time when very

employment issues, bear in mind that many transgendered people might need a little more in their paycheck than your average employee. A lot of this stuff costs money, and most company benefit plans disallow any transsexual-specific needs such as hormones, therapy, or surgeries from coverage, claiming that such is "experimental." One would figure that something that has been in use since at least 1931 (or 1948 for the guys) would be a little old for such a classification. But I digress.

This does bring up a story that I simply must share with you. An example of an employer who has gone a lot further than simply accepting a transgendered employee to be on their staff.

A couple of weeks ago I was contacted by a female-to-male transperson named Chris. He's a busboy at a downtown restaurant and nightclub called Le Colonial. That's at 20 Cosmo Place, right off Taylor, between Post and Sutter. Just in case you wanted to know.

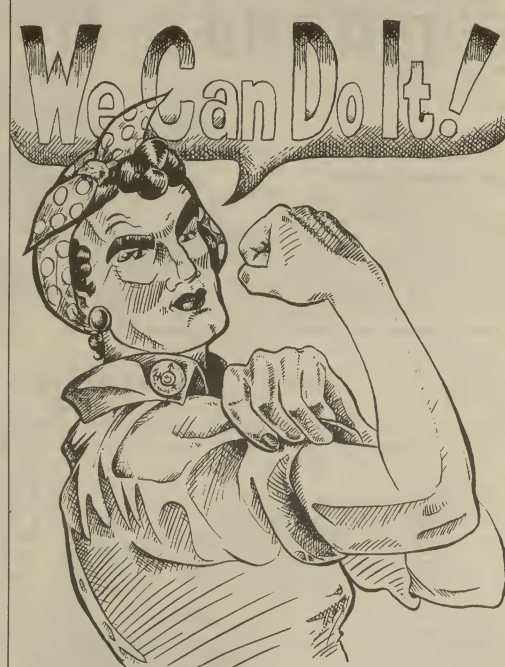
Knowing that surgery is not cheap, his employers gave him a very special gift: they are giving him the use of the night club area on February 8 for a special event, so that Chris can do some fundraising for his transition.

You read that right. Here's an upscale restaurant that is going out of its way to help one of their transgendered employees get his needs fulfilled. And he's going to make it one hell of an event. He might even have me say a few words.

I'll bet that Chris will be with Le Colonial for some time, with treatment like that.

So, all you business owners out there, the next time someone you might suspect is transgendered walks through your door and fills out an employment application, give him a second look. You may be looking at the best employee you can find. ▼

Gwen Smith has yet to be spotted on Market Street with a "will write for food" sign. Rather, you can spot on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).



Christine Smith



## POLITICS

# Bush's day of pomp and protests

by Wayne Friday

Ten-gallon cowboy hats, black boots, gaudy pear-sized diamonds, mink coats, and tuxedos with bolo string neckties were the rule of the day Saturday, January 20 as Texan **George W. Bush** became the country's 43rd president. Pomp and an inaugural parade, a traditional lunch, and numerous balls took place last weekend as Bush and Vice President **Dick Cheney**, obviously ignoring the depth of resentment among millions of Americans about the way the election was concluded, parted along with thousands of Republicans, acting as though they had won a mandate, a landslide election, or the popular vote – actually they won none of these, but what the hell, the parties were big and the Republicans, like it or not, are back in power.

Some 15,000 demonstrators gathered in San Francisco, along with thousands in other cities like Los Angeles, Memphis, Chicago, and New York – even Washington, D.C. itself was the center for an outpouring of protests not seen since **Richard Nixon** began his second term during the Vietnam War in 1973 – all protesting what many still think was a “stolen” national election. Despite the tightest security measures ever seen at an inauguration, hundreds of D.C. protesters got close enough to the presidential motorcade that Bush and Cheney had to have seen them. CNN reported that the presidential limo was hit with an egg during the parade.

Many people still feel that Bush took office as the result of a stolen election (think Florida), one so close that even some Republicans privately admit the presidency has now fallen into the hands of a man who doesn't deserve and didn't actually win it. Bush, who clearly hopes that the deft transition of power will eventually silence questions about his legitimacy in holding the job, took over Saturday, and, to be sure he is now president, legitimately or otherwise. So, it's time to get over it, I guess. Party on, George, and God help us all.

## Politics and people

Mayor **Willie Brown**, former Mayor **Art Agnos**, and Board of Supervisors President **Tom Amiano** were among the speakers at a tribute to **Rick Pacurar** last Friday in City Hall that was attended by an overflow crowd of family members, friends, and colleagues of the late activist. Pacurar was a driving force in the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and worked on many gay, AIDS, and other issues over the years. He died of AIDS-related complications last month.

A letter to the editor last week from Kevin H. Avila complained that this column is too one-sided and lacks “objective commentary” – hey, I never claimed to be non-partisan. Don't like it? Too bad.

Last Saturday's inaugural was unique in another way – **William H. Rehnquist**, the same U.S. Supreme Court chief justice that issued the majority opinion that



Former Mayor Art Agnos remembers activist Rick Pacurar during a January 19 memorial service held in City Hall.

effectively gave the presidency to Bush – was the one who swore him in (“I solemnly swear ...” wink, wink). And finally on the inauguration of George W. Bush – only once before has a son followed his father into the presidency, but the historical record is encouraging, since both turned out to be one-termers. **John Quincy Adams** took office in 1825 and served a single term before losing his re-election bid to **Andrew Jackson**. His father, **John Adams**, served from 1797 to 1801 but lost a bid for a second term to **Thomas Jefferson**.

Supervisor **Mark Leno** is slated to become the new chair of the powerful Finance and Labor Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supes, along with Supervisors **Aaron Peskin** and **Matt Gonzalez**; another important committee, Housing, Transportation, and Land Use, will be chaired by Supervisor **Jake McGoldrick**, and includes Supes **Chris Daly** and **Peskin**.

Washington, D.C. insiders say that President Bush will appoint former GOP presidential candidate and Republican Cabinet member **Elizabeth Dole** as his new U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Everyone who has an opinion on it says that Governor **Gray Davis**'s appointment of Public Defender **Jeff Brown** to the powerful California Public Utilities Commission is one of the governor's best appointments. This week, Mayor Brown named **Kim Burton-Cruz** to become the city's new public defender and a good one she will be. Burton-Cruz, a former assistant public defender, heads the mayor's criminal justice office. She's the daughter of state Senate President Pro Tem **John Burton**.

Meanwhile, Sacramento insiders are saying that California Secretary of State **Bill Jones**, the only GOP statewide constitutional officeholder, is quietly putting together an exploratory group and has begun to increase his media and public appearances around the state in hopes of running for governor against Davis in 2002. Davis remains a strong early favorite for re-election, particularly if he continues to garner good marks on the current state energy crisis; Davis has managed to do so in part by keeping the blame centered on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the ener-

gy nightmare that has resulted in those hated “rolling blackouts.”

More on the energy crisis: State Senator **Steve Peace** (D-Chula Vista), the San Diego-area legislator who was the key leader as chair of the committee that approved deregulation of California's electricity market back in 1996, has suddenly changed his tune. Peace has posted a video on his state Senate Web site suggesting that he was in fact never really a fan of deregulation in the first place. Ha! The deregulation has now racked up billions in debts, threatens to increase consumers' electricity bills, and has sent state leaders searching for a solution, possibly considering a re-regulation plan. This entire mess actually started with Senator Peace and his ilk back in 1996, and culminated with members of both the Senate and Assembly unanimously approving the legislation which was signed into law by then-Governor **Pete Wilson**. Consumer groups laughed at the attempt of Peace's Web site, with **Harvey Rosenfeld**, the founder of the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, remarking that “when Steve Peace, the utilities, and the politicians get through with this, the deregulation will have been caused by a virus that somebody put in the water supply.”

In Los Angeles, word is that it will likely be either former Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa** or openly gay City Council member **Joel Wachs** who will win the April 10 primary to make it into the June 5 mayoral runoff with L.A. City Attorney **Jim Hahn** to decide that city's next mayor; Wachs is now thought to have a slight edge over Villaraigosa.

Now that Dick Cheney has been sworn in as vice president, he will provide the tie-breaking vote in the 50-50 U.S. Senate, so control of that body reverted back to the Republicans. Capitol Hill wags are saying that should the Republicans somehow lose control of the Senate (it would take a Democratic gain of only one seat), **Trent Lott** (R-Mississippi) would surely get the boot from his majority leader post in favor of **Don Nickles** (R-Oklahoma). Many Senate Republicans are angry at the loss of five Senate seats in the November election and there is reportedly plenty of bad blood among the 50 GOP senators toward Lott.

Meanwhile, Republicans on Capitol Hill are fuming this week over Senator **John McCain**'s (R-Arizona) insistence on introducing his campaign finance reform

next page ►

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# An index of leading Bush indicators

by Dale Carpenter

George W. Bush has made a career of surpassing expectations. When it comes to gay issues, for many activists the expectations of him are lower than a rattlesnake's belly. Will Bush pleasantly surprise us? Here are three early things to look for.

**Executive orders.** The Clinton administration leaves behind some important executive orders related to gay rights. In a feel-your-pain presidency memorable more for a deadly combination of good motives and spinelessness than for "watershed and tangible civil rights breakthroughs" (as the Human Rights Campaign's Elizabeth Birch aptly put it), these were rare accomplishments.

One executive order forbids discrimination against gays in federal civil employment. Another forbids using sexual orientation as a basis for denying security clearances. Either could be rescinded at will by Bush.

Spokesmen for Bush have said he will be reviewing all of Clinton's executive orders, deciding which to keep and which to discard. That is a perfectly appropriate thing for any new president to do.

But there is no call for Bush to rescind these particular executive orders. Sexual orientation bears no relationship to fitness for federal employment or to responsibility for access to classified information. Bush wouldn't even have the standard Republican reason for opposing non-discrimination laws — that government should stay out of private affairs. The orders deal, after all, with government employment.

In political terms, letting the orders stand would be much less costly to Bush (in terms of support from social conservatives) than it would have been to issue them in the first instance. Retaining them would be a good indication he really means something when he says he wants to be a "uniter, not a divider." It would also consolidate one of the few real gains made during the Clinton years.

## Administration appointments.

So far, Bush's appointments are a mixed lot, but not as bad as they've been portrayed. He's chosen two very good gay-friendly governors, Christine Whitman (R-New Jersey) and Tommy Thompson (R-Wisconsin), for his Cabinet. Thompson, for example, tried unsuccessfully to strip the GOP platform of its anti-gay language this past summer. The pro-gay Mary Matalin also was named senior counselor to Vice President Dick Cheney.

Then there's John Ashcroft, Bush's choice for attorney general. National gay groups immediately lambasted the nomination, citing Ashcroft's opposition to their entire legislative agenda, his resistance to Clinton's choice of the openly gay James Hormel to be ambassador to Luxembourg, and his past retrograde comments about changing one's homosexuality.

On the other hand, Ashcroft testified before Congress that he would maintain the Justice Department's non-discrimination policy. "Even if the executive order [preventing anti-gay discrimination in federal employment] is repealed," he said, "I would still not consider sexual orientation in hiring at the Department of Justice because I don't believe it relevant to the responsibilities." He then suggested he would continue to permit the Justice Department's gay employees' group to use government facilities for meetings and the like. Even if these statements represent a "confirmation conversion" they are strikingly tolerant for a man reviled as an ogre of the far right.

Will Bush appoint an openly gay person to his administration? There's every reason to believe, at this point, he will become the first Republican president to do so. He has repeatedly affirmed that sexual orientation would not be a factor in his hiring.

The one time Bush suggested he might not hire an openly gay person, on a radio station during the South Carolina primary, the reason he gave for his reluctance was instructive. An openly gay person, he said at the time, "prob-

ably wouldn't share my philosophy." To me, that has always seemed more like an accurate assessment than prejudice.

It's by now clear there are many qualified, openly gay people who share Bush's commitment to lower taxes, less federal regulation, education reform, and so on. This is so clear, in fact, that openly gay people held positions in Bush's campaign and were appointed to his transition team, a first for a Republican president-elect. Watch for more such firsts.

**The military.** During Bill Clinton's eight years in office, military discharges of openly gay personnel more than doubled, rising to more than 1,000 per year in 1998 for the first time in 10 years. The reason for this alarming rise isn't that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is worse than what it replaced (an outright ban on gays). In fact, the old and new military policies are almost identical in substance.

The major difference is that Clinton's commanders aggressively sought out gay service members for harassment and termination. That is, the implementation of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy exacerbated its core injustice. Clinton, as commander-in-chief, did nothing to curb the military's bloodlust for gays.

Bush has said he will keep this cruel policy, so there's little chance of undoing it for now. The real question will be whether Bush's military will continue the intrusive investigations of the Clinton era or ease up on gay people who want to serve. Every president must enforce the law. But as we have learned the hard way, there's enforcement and then there's ENFORCEMENT.

Let's monitor an easy gauge of improvement. Will military discharges rise even more under Bush? Or will they perhaps go back to lower levels not seen since the halcyon days of Bush's father, when such discharges averaged a mere 800 wrecked lives per year? ▼

Dale Carpenter, a law professor, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).

## Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

package only days after Bush's inauguration. McCain insists he has the votes for passage and the move is seen by Bush operatives as a plan to not only provoke the new president (who opposes the McCain-Feingold plan) but also to embarrass Senate GOP leaders; Bush last week refused to say whether or not he would veto the legislation if it reaches his desk, but Bush's political aides see the McCain move as one posed to "show up" his former presidential primary foe.

Back to the California energy crisis: *Sacramento Bee* columnist **Dan Walters** probably has it closest to being right when he writes, "We should clearly understand what got us into this mess and not take the easy path of blaming others. About 95 percent of the electrical energy problems we are ex-

periencing are the result of short-sighted, wrongheaded policies voluntarily adopted within California by the Public Utilities Commission, by the Legislature and by the state's privately owned utilities. And the rest is mostly bad luck."

Those California Republicans attending the Bush inaugural last week told me that there was plenty of urging from Bush loyalists and others — particularly checkbook Republicans — for actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** to run for governor in 2002. (They're serious, and you read it here first.)

Remember when the California Republican congressional delegation tried to put an initiative on the 2000 ballot last year that would have taken remapping power for congressional and legislative districts away from the heavily-Democratic state Legislature? Well, political payback is always fun — state Republicans might be treated okay, but Democrats are more than a bit annoyed at those Re-

publican House members and it might very well show up when the new congressional lines are drawn by the Democratic Legislature and our Democratic governor; the new lines will be in play at least for the next decade.

And finally, from the "what-comes-around-goes-around" department: **Linda Tripp**, the infamous blab-all phony confidante of **Monica Lewinsky**, whose notorious tapes nearly toppled a president, has been fired from her \$98,744-a-year Pentagon job. When Tripp refused to resign her political job like other appointees to clear the deck for the new administration, she quickly learned that the Bush people wanted nothing to do with her either so she has been dumped. Hey, if she couldn't be loyal to the president who gave her a job who's to think she wouldn't turn on the new guy as well? Time to write that book, Linda.

And how was your week? ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Love! Valour! Compassion!

by Jane Warner

**1**00 block of Collingwood, January 20, 12:05 a.m.: A man became angry after seeing his ex-boyfriend with another man inside a bar on 18th Street. The pair left the bar, but the man followed them down the street, pleading with his ex for reconciliation. The ex ignored him and continued walking with his date toward Collingwood Street. Angered, the man got into his parked car nearby and drove the wrong way down Collingwood yelling, "I'm going to fucking run you over!" Swerving, the man ran over his ex-boyfriend's foot, jumped out of the car, and brandished a metal rod. Police arrived on the scene and quickly arrested the man without further incident. The 21-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked for two counts of aggravated assault, terrorist threats, and numerous traffic violations.

## Clueless

Cal-Fed, 444 Castro, January

16, 12:20 p.m.: A man who had gotten away with \$1,200 after cashing three stolen checks before they were reported missing, decided he'd try his luck again. The man walked up to the bank manager and handed her a personal check made out to himself for \$400.

The manager, recognizing the suspect from the week before, ran the account number, confirmed that the check was stolen, and called the police. When officers arrived, the man was still at the teller's window waiting for his cash. The surprised thief was taken into custody without incident.

## Free Willie

Castro and Market, January 15, 1:50 p.m.: A citizen called police after watching a man urinate in the trash can fronting Twin Peaks bar and then walk down Castro with his pants down. Two women with small children passed the man, who held his penis in his hand and shook it at them as they walked by. Police found the man in front of Bare Necessities and placed him under arrest. A search of his person revealed a half-

empty bottle in his coat pocket. The 40-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked for engaging in lewd acts, urinating in public, disorderly conduct, and public intoxication.

## Easy rider

100 block of Landers, January 17, 11:45 p.m.

After taking her Christmas tree out for disposal, a woman momentarily left her garage door open while she checked to see if there was any more trash in the backyard. When she returned, she saw a strange man standing in her driveway holding a Razor scooter. The woman immediately recognized it as her scooter she kept in her garage and yelled to the man, "Hey, that's mine!" The suspect, described as an Asian male, 30 years old, 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 130 pounds, wearing a dark brown hooded jacket, yelled back, "No it isn't," and scooted southbound on Landers. Responding police were unable to find him. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.



# New Social Security rules benefit working people with HIV

by Cynthia Laird

**T**he Social Security Administration has issued several new rules that took effect January 1 which enhance current work incentives and will perhaps allow more people with disabilities to test their ability to work. The new rules are part of a package of proposed regulations announced by President Clinton before he left office as part of the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For help in understanding the new regulations, the Positive Resource Center is offering free monthly workshops entitled "Thinking About Working: What Happens to Benefits" on the second Friday of each month from 10 a.m.-noon. The next workshop will be offered Friday, February 9. Mairi McKeever, benefits counseling coordinator at PRC, said, "The SSA rules are very complex and everyone's case is different. If you are thinking of going back to work, don't do it alone. At Positive Resource Center, we cannot emphasize enough just how important it is to attend one of our workshops before starting work."

The first new rule increases the amount a disabled Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiary can earn before earnings indicate that one is performing "substantial gainful activity" (also called SGA). The

amount has been raised to \$740 a month for 2001 (the amount in 2000 was \$700 and prior to July 1999, \$500 a month). In following years, the SSA will increase this SGA amount if there is an increase to the national average wage index.

SGA is the income level by which the SSA determines whether or not a person is qualified for SSDI or SSI benefits. During the initial application for SSDI and/or SSI and during subsequent reviews to evaluate continued eligibility, the SSA looks at the individual's ability to earn SGA (\$740 for 2001). If the applicant or recipient is deemed capable of SGA, the SSA will likely determine that the person is not disabled and does not qualify for SSDI or SSI (regardless of how "ill" or "disabled" that person may be). McKeever noted that although this SGA amount plays a role in some of the Social Security work incentive rules, it is best understood as an arbitrary marker of what constitutes work that is substantial enough to make a person eligible for benefits under Social Security disability regulations.

For recipients of SSDI benefits, this SGA increase will also allow gross earnings of up to \$740 each month without a loss of the SSDI check after the trial work period is over. Under the trial work period, SSDI recipients can work up to nine non-consecutive months (called the extended period of eligibility) as long as their earnings fall below SGA.

The new increase and those that may follow are good news for disabled beneficiaries living with HIV who are considering taking a first step toward employment – if that is what they have determined is right for them. McKeever said it is also helpful for those SSDI beneficiaries who are working under the extended period of eligibility because it allows them to make \$40 extra before they may get their check discontinued. It is important to note that this change does not apply to recipients of SSI.

The second new rule is perhaps even more enticing to those people living with HIV who receive SSDI benefits and are considering work: as of January 1, the amount one can earn before a month counts as a trial work period has increased to \$530 (the amount in 2000 and in prior years was \$200).

Prior to this change, any gross earnings of \$200 a month triggered a nine-month trial work period for SSDI recipients. Now, SSDI recipients can earn up to \$530 gross each month without using a trial work month, thereby saving these months until they are ready and/or able to make higher wages. It is important to note that this rule also does not apply to SSI recipients.

McKeever reminded people that PRC helps people living with HIV obtain and/or maintain disability benefits and employment. The nonprofit agency serves over 2,500 people each year. For more information about the monthly workshops, call (415) 777-0333. ▼

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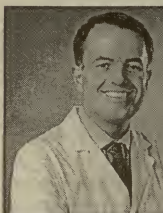


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# Hawaiian gays march for marriage rights

by Ed Walsh

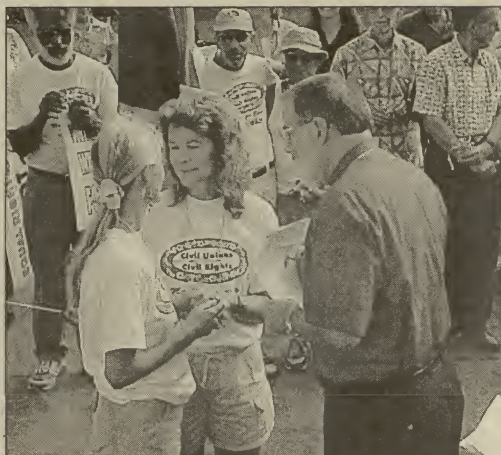
Hawaiian gays lost the battle for marriage two years ago but they're not taking it lei'ing down.

The state's Civil Unions-Civil Rights Movement ended eight days of sustained protest actions this week in support of "equality and justice for Hawaii's gay, lesbian, and transgender citizens."

On Monday, January 22, marchers who had circled the island of Oahu for 110 miles over the eight-day action, arrived for a rally outside the state offices in downtown Honolulu. A petition was later presented to Attorney General Earl Anzai demanding a legal opinion clarifying the government's obligations to provide full rights and benefits to same-sex couples.

Five of the marchers were honored for making the entire 110 mile march around the island carrying a coffin symbolic of the more than 60 GLBT persons killed in the U.S. since the Matthew Shepard murder. One of those who went the distance was transplanted San Franciscan Michael Golujuth, who just moved to Hawaii in November.

"I came here to take a break from



A lesbian couple were united during a commitment ceremony in Hawaii.

nership rights, known as "reciprocal beneficiaries." Then in 1998, after years of legal and political wrangling, voters approved a constitutional amendment against gay marriage.

One of the march organizers, Noran Siegal, told the B.A.R. that apathy may be one of their biggest

**"About 20 percent of the people were very supportive, honking their horns and waving. And maybe 1 percent were really negative, and the rest, maybe 79 percent were indifferent."**

the city," he said. "And when I came here, this was going on and they asked me to join them and I said 'sure,' and the next thing you know I'm walking around the island."

Golujuth celebrated his 28th birthday on the march route.

"It was one of the best birthdays I've ever had," he told the Bay Area Reporter.

Golujuth added that although Hawaii has a liberal reputation, it was tough to get people to participate because so many of the islands' gays are closeted and apathetic.

Hawaii almost became the first and only state to legalize gay marriages. In 1993, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that denying same-sex couples the right to marry violated the state Constitution. That ruling led to lawmakers enacting a series of domestic part-

obstacles now.

"We had a major community buildup a couple of years ago when the constitutional amendment was happening," said Siegal. "And the community got all this support but all the energy that was built up for that just died. Like there was no where to go with it. What we're doing now is starting a movement and trying to energize. We hope this is just the beginning of a long-term plan of resistance."

"One of the goals is to get civil union legislation passed in Hawaii," Siegal said. "We realize that it's still asking to ride on the back of the bus but it's a step forward. What we're looking for is equality. We're looking for non-discrimination. We're looking for separation of church and state. And we're looking for hate crimes

legislation."

Siegal said that for the most part, the marchers got very little negative feedback.

"About 20 percent of the people were very supportive," he said, "honking their horns and waving. And maybe 1 percent were really negative, calling us names and gestures, and the rest, maybe 79 percent were indifferent."

But some of that negativity was in full force just before Monday's rally. A group of about 30 counter-protesters showed up for a rally of their own. The group carried signs and chanted "same-sex unions have to go." The group dispersed just minutes before the marchers arrived at the rally site. A few brief shouting matches erupted between counter-protesters and those who arrived early to take part in the pro-gay rally.

After the rally, the eight-day campaign ended with a commitment ceremony for couples seeking legal civil unions. Three lesbian couples went through the ceremony in front of the state offices, complete with rings and rice.

The gathering seemed to be too much for 81-year-old Lei McCorricon, who shook her head in disapproval before turning to this reporter.

"Hey, why don't you interview me?" she asked. "And where are you from anyway?"

When she heard "San Francisco," she quickly responded.

"Oh, there are a lot of them out there."

"God made men for women. Women for men. It's disgusting," she said as the commitment ceremony continued less than 10 feet from where she was standing. "It turns my stomach. And I was born and raised on the island."

The march seem to set some people off from the start. It began on January 15, the holiday honoring the birth of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. A group of conservative Christian ministers countered it by holding a press conference to speak out against the organization's participation in the Martin Luther King Day parade.

But during a candlelight vigil that night to remember hate crime victims, one of the march leaders, retired African American physician Rodney Powell, told those gathered that King would not have accepted oppression of gays. Powell participated in the 1960s civil rights campaign as a college student. ▼



Participants held a rally in support of same-sex marriage rights in Hawaii.



# Texas minister comes out as gay

Holds news conference regarding amnesia

by Ed Walsh

James Simmons, the former Mill Valley minister who says he lost his memory in a violent attack 17 years ago, is answering skeptics who have suggested his amnesia is fake.

Simmons, 49, spoke to reporters last Saturday, January 20, at a press conference in the predominantly gay Dallas church where he was hired as pastor last month.

"I don't know if I would believe myself if I heard this story," said Simmons, who was joined at the press conference by his brother and sister.

Simmons disappeared on July 12, 1984. Then, his name was Barre Cox. He had a wife and 6-month-old daughter. He had recently begun a job as a youth minister for a prominent San Antonio church.

His car was found abandoned and ransacked. Searches turned up nothing and he was eventually declared dead and assumed to have been the victim of violent crime.

"My first few weeks that I remember, I was hitchhiking across Tennessee," said Simmons. "The facts that they had conveyed to me had been given to me by word and or by very foggy memory, being told that I'd been found in the trunk of a car near Memphis."

Simmons eventually moved to California and had been living in the Bay Area since 1991. He first attended the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley as a student and was later hired as an employee.

After his tryout sermon before the White Rock Community Church in Dallas last month, someone in the congregation recognized him as Barre Cox, the man who disappeared in 1984.

During the press conference, reporters quizzed Simmons on the details of where in the Memphis area he was treated for the alleged 1984 assault. Simmons said he couldn't remember.

"At that particular time, it was very foggy from around the first of July to the middle of August," said Simmons.

Simmons also answered speculation over his sexual orientation.

"I'm a gay celibate man, yes I am," he told reporters.

"I want you to know I'm just a man," Simmons said. "I'm sinful, imperfect, striving to live the best



Minister James Simmons at White Rock Community Church in Dallas

I can with what God's given me." Simmons's family told reporters that they never gave up hope that he was alive.

"I lived with questions for a long time," said Simmons's sister, Dixie Cox, an open lesbian. "I feel like until you have a body to bury you don't give up hope. And I feel like I've been looking for him the whole time."

Simmons announced that he would not be giving the Sunday sermon as planned because, he said, he wanted to take four weeks off to get to know his family and to give the church congregation more time to decide whether they still wanted to go ahead with plans to hire him. But later, church spokesman Craig McDaniel told the *Bay Area Reporter* that after they discussed it with Simmons, he agreed to go ahead with the original plan to give Sunday's sermon.

His sermon was very well received by the congregation. It was entitled "The Tears of Jesus." He didn't talk directly about his ordeal but spoke about the miracle of Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life.

Simmons also began his Saturday press conference with a reading from the Bible.

"I know this is not typical," he said, "but I'd like to read three verses. I think you can stand three verses."

The passage he read was from John 9: 1-3: "As he went along he saw a blind man from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who

sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

"Neither the man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so the word of God might be displayed in his life."

## Known in SF circles

Simmons was well-known and respected in San Francisco's religious gay community.

"I knew him very well," said the Reverend Penny Nixon, the pastor of the predominantly gay Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco in the Castro. "I served as spiritual director to him for a while. He is a colleague and a friend. He's extremely gracious, just a lovely, kind man."

Nixon said that she met Simmons about five years ago through someone in her congregation. She said that although Simmons was not a member of MCC-SF, he attended services there on occasion. Nixon said he was very open to her about not being able to remember his past and she believes his amnesia is genuine.

"I know his story is so unique, almost incredulous, but the ways I had experienced him I could see how it could be true. I noticed that there were certain events that were of general public knowledge, cultural, or historical events that I could tell he wasn't clued in on."

"He's not given me any reason to doubt the veracity of his story but I haven't scrutinized it either," Nixon added. ▽

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## Protest prison abuse and neglect Saturday

by Katie Szymanski

What does it take to make the California Department of Corrections realize that healthcare is a human right? Unfortunately, the constant and continuing deaths within prison walls have not seemed to have the slightest impact, which is why human rights activists have decided to intervene.

Nine women have died at the Central California Women's Facility since November 2000. The Department of Corrections is trying to pass these deaths off as a "bad batch of street drugs," while toxicology reports apparently show

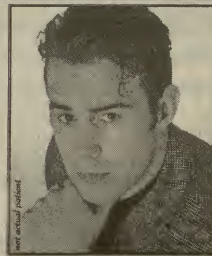
otherwise. The truth, according to the legal and medical advocates who routinely visit with prisoners, is that women behind bars suffer life-threatening medical neglect and abuse every day.

A demonstration will be held this Saturday, January 27, to memorialize the women who died and to fight for the lives of the women who remain inside. Protesters will demand, among other things, an end the medical technical assistant (MTA) position which combines the punishment duties of a guard with what is supposed to be a compassionate healthcare relationship; public health oversight of prison medical care; compassionate release for

dying prisoners; medical specialists for all women with serious illnesses; appropriate emergency response procedures for women in medical crisis; and a full, independent investigation into the recent deaths as well as concrete action to prevent more women from dying.

The demonstration begins at 1 p.m. outside the entrance to CCWF on Road 22, near Avenue 24, in Chowchilla. Participants are asked to wear black. Carpools will leave at 9:30 a.m. from the Safeway at Church and Market in San Francisco and the MacArthur BART station in Oakland. For more information, or to reserve a ride, call (510) 665-1935 or (415) 255-7036, ext. 4. ▽

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# New gay Republican group launched

by Bob Roehr

**G**ay Republicans and their straight supporters celebrated the new Bush administration with a party of their own last week, amid pledges of unity from participants.

"The Republican Unity Coalition is about building bridges. It is about creating a gay-straight alliance within the Republican Party. It is about making being gay or lesbian a non-issue in the Republican Party. It is about helping President Bush succeed as a uniter," said Charles Francis, chairman of the new group.



Charles Francis

Francis is a friend of George W. Bush who was instrumental in bringing together a dozen gay Republicans to meet with then-governor and candidate Bush last April to discuss gay concerns. They have become known as the

Austin 12.

The openly gay public affairs consultant likely will play a role similar to the one David Mixner played in the Clinton administration, perhaps more so, due to his closer personal ties and Bush's premium on loyalty.

"After our meeting with Governor Bush [in April], a reporter shouted a question from the back of the room: 'Hey Governor, what do you say to conservative Republicans about your meeting with gays?'" Francis recounted. "The governor replied, 'I want conservative Republicans to know that I judge people based on their heart and character, and that is what this whole campaign is about.'"

The January 19 breakfast for the RUC, part of the inaugural calendar, kicked off what may come to be seen as a political milestone in the evolution of both gay and Republican politics. The 300-plus invitees in the room and the honorary host committee, both gay and straight, included some very impressive political firepower. The talk was frank, optimistic, and above all, pragmatic.

"The Republican National Convention in 1992 spoke of divisiveness and cultural wars. I was appalled," said Rebecca Maestri. She worked on the staffs of former New York Senator Al D'Amato and Florida Senator Connie Mack. She was one of the Austin 12 and left that meeting "with a lasting impression" that a Bush administration would be about "unifying people, all people, regardless of whom they loved."



Rebecca Maestri

Alan Simpson, now retired after 18 years as senator from Wyoming, was the genial master of ceremonies. He spoke of having known Vice President Dick Cheney for more than 35 years, and of having watched his lesbian daughter Mary grow up to be "one of the most remarkable women."



Former Senator Alan Simpson

He shared the "terrible anguish" of Matthew Shepard's murder, of speaking at the vigil for Shepard at the Capitol and his eagerness to join this coalition effort.

## Cold water

David Catania, the dynamic young gay Republican member of the Washington, D.C. City Council, showered praise all around, and then issued a warning that the remainder of his speech "will be controversial, because I am going to tell you that at this point, the Republican Party's treatment of gays and lesbians is at best unacceptable, and at worst distasteful."



David Catania

He reminded the audience that the Republican Party "championed, drafted, and ratified" the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution that established equal protection under the law for all Americans.

Catania read a section of the 14th Amendment and then anti-gay excerpts from the Republican Party platform; he called the latter "junk." "Our party today puts language in its platform that is in fact incompatible with who we are as a party. And that must stop." He urged the party to reclaim its roots.

## The pro speaks

"Politics is a game of addition, it is not a game of subtraction," said keynote speaker Tom Davis, who represents the Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C. in Congress. He chaired the National Republican Congressional Committee for the last two years and will continue to do so for the next two.

With the coolness of the political wonk that he is, and only the slightest hint of boasting, Davis laid out how, "against great odds, we defied the pundits" in the last election to keep control of the House in Republican hands. Those results won the moderate respect and IOUs from his party colleagues across the political spectrum.

"Republican strategy, whether conservative or moderate, depended for their success on low voter turnout models, but we can no longer count on that expectation," he said. "With the bully pulpit of the presidency, we have an opportunity to talk to and reach groups that traditionally agree with us on some issues ... but for one reason or another have not been able to pull that lever."

"Getting more gays and lesbians to vote Republican should be an easier part of that voter matrix [for building majorities] than getting people of color," Davis said. He pointed to exit poll trend lines that showed Bush gaining 25 percent of the vote of self-identified gay vote in 2000 while congressional Republican candidates got 35 percent of that vote.

He thought that much of the reason why Republicans did not



Congressman Tom Davis

do better with the gay community is that the party has been reactive rather than pro-active on issues of importance to the community. "The fact is, when it comes to this sort of legislation, the only policy solutions seem to be liberal Democratic solutions."

Davis believes that groups such as the RUC can help develop policies and legislation "in keeping with our agenda of limited government and free enterprise" that meet the needs of the gay community in a pro-active manner.

The way Davis explained it, that is the only way the Republican Party can hope to keep its political majority. It is this type of pure pragmatism that is likely to carry the day with his colleagues who have yet to be swayed by arguments of justice and equality. It may eventually lead to his becoming speaker of the House.

## Unity here

Last spring, tensions ran high between the Bush campaign and Log Cabin Republicans. Those seemed to have dissipated by the national convention in July, and Log Cabin ran about a half million dollars in pro-Bush ads in the fall. There also were reports of bad blood between Log Cabin's executive director Rich Tafel and Francis. So perhaps RUC was Francis's way of getting back at Tafel, by creating another gay Republican organization.

Such speculation was quashed at the RUC breakfast where the watchword was unity. All of the players were reading from the same script, saying that the two organizations had different functions and would complement each other.

From the podium, Tafel called the event "a turning point, a new day in gay and lesbian politics" and for the Republican Party. He praised Davis as the first head of the NRCC to invite Log Cabin to its monthly meetings. "I am convinced that his inclusive outlook is the reason why we maintained the House."

Tafel said, when there were "bumps in the road during the presidential campaign, Congressman Davis personally went to then-Governor Bush and said, we both have to work together." Tafel called for maintaining policy advances made by gays under the Clinton administration and for the appointment of openly gay and lesbian people in key positions in the Bush administration.

Congressman Davis's talk could not have been given two or three years ago, said Simpson. He called it something that is "really, really" important, "you can hear the polar ice caps crack." ▼

For more information on the Republican Unity Coalition, check out [www.RepublicanUnity.cjb.net](http://www.RepublicanUnity.cjb.net).

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**1. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis/Hepatic Failure:** Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including stavudine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. In addition, deaths attributed to hepatotoxicity have occurred in patients receiving the combination of ZERIT, didanosine, and hydroxyurea. Particular caution should be exercised when administering ZERIT to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with ZERIT should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations). An increased risk of hepatotoxicity, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea compared to when ZERIT is used alone. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for signs of liver toxicity. **2. Peripheral Neuropathy:** Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients receiving ZERIT therapy. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, a history of neuropathy, or concurrent neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS). **3. Pancreatitis:** Fatal and nonfatal pancreatitis have occurred during therapy when ZERIT was part of a combination regimen that included didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea, in both treatment-naïve and treatment-experienced patients, regardless of degree of immunosuppression. The combination of ZERIT and didanosine (with or without hydroxyurea) and any other agents that are toxic to the pancreas should be suspended in patients with suspected pancreatitis. Reinstitution of ZERIT after a confirmed diagnosis of pancreatitis should be undertaken with particular caution and close patient monitoring. The new regimen should contain neither didanosine nor hydroxyurea.

#### PRECAUTIONS

**Information for Patients (See Patient Information Leaflet.):** Patients should be informed that an important toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be aware that peripheral neuropathy is manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, and that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians. Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy occurs with greatest frequency in patients who have advanced HIV disease or a history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or discontinuation of ZERIT may be required if toxicity develops. Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that when ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. An increased risk of pancreatitis, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with the combination of ZERIT and didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for symptoms of pancreatitis. An increased risk of hepatotoxicity, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for signs of liver toxicity. Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. Patients should be informed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection. **Drug Interactions:** Zidovudine may competitively inhibit the intracellular phosphorylation of stavudine. Therefore, use of zidovudine in combination with ZERIT is not recommended. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information.) **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** In 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats, stavudine was noncarcinogenic at doses which produced exposures (AUC) 39 and 168 times, respectively, human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Benign and malignant liver tumors in mice and rats and malignant urinary bladder tumors in male rats occurred at levels of exposure 250 (mice) and 732 (rats) times human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed cells in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without

#### ONLY

metabolic activation). In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at doses of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 10 days. No evidence of induced fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on  $C_{max}$ ) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day. **Pregnancy:** Pregnancy "Category C." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on  $C_{max}$ ) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of the sternbra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed. **Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry:** To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to stavudine and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263. **Nursing Mothers:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Because of both the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving ZERIT (stavudine). **Pediatric Use:** Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional pharmacokinetic and safety data in pediatric patients. Adverse events that were reported to occur in 105 pediatric patients receiving ZERIT 2 mg/kg/day for a median of 6.4 months in study ACTG 240 were generally similar to those reported in adults. Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients ranging in age from 5 weeks to 15 years and in weight from 2 to 43 kg after IV or oral administration of single doses and twice daily regimens (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY Table 1 in full prescribing information). **Geriatric Use:** Clinical studies of ZERIT did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently than younger patients. Greater sensitivity of some older individuals to the effects of ZERIT cannot be ruled out. In a monotherapy Expanded Access Program for patients with advanced HIV infection, peripheral neuropathy or peripheral neuropathic symptoms were observed in 15 of 40 (38%) elderly patients receiving 40 mg twice daily and 8 of 51 (16%) elderly patients receiving 20 mg twice daily. Of the approximately 12,000 patients enrolled in the Expanded Access Program, peripheral neuropathy or peripheral neuropathic symptoms developed in 30% of patients receiving 40 mg twice daily and 25% of patients receiving 20 mg twice daily. Elderly patients should be closely monitored for signs and symptoms of peripheral neuropathy. ZERIT is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, it may be useful to monitor renal function. Dose adjustment is recommended for patients with renal impairment (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Dose Adjustment).

#### ADVERSE REACTIONS

**Adults:** ZERIT therapy has been associated with peripheral neuropathy, which can be severe, is dose related, and occurs more frequently in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine, in patients with advanced HIV infection, or in patients who have previously experienced peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the dose (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered. When ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. Pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, and liver function abnormalities occur more frequently in patients treated with the combination of ZERIT and didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea. Fatal pancreatitis and hepatotoxicity may occur more frequently in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS). Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A155-019) are provided by percentages as follows: **START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+didanosine (n=102) with a duration of 48 weeks:** Nausea (43), Diarrhea (34), Headache (25), Rash (18), Vomiting (18), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (8); **zidovudine+lamivudine+didanosine (n=102):** Nausea (53), Diarrhea (16), Headache (26), Rash (13), Vomiting (33), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (7); **START 2—ZERIT+didanosine+indinavir (n=102) with a duration of 48 weeks:** Nausea (53), Diarrhea (45), Headache (46), Rash (30), Vomiting (30), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (21); **zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103):** Nausea (67), Diarrhea (39), Headache (37), Rash (18), Vomiting (35), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (10). **START 2 compared two triple-combination regimens in 205 treatment-naïve patients.** Patients received either ZERIT (40 mg twice daily) plus didanosine plus indinavir or zidovudine plus lamivudine plus indinavir. Pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in patients treated with ZERIT plus didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea, in controlled clinical studies and in postmarketing reports. Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A155-019) are provided by percentage with the following parameters: **ZERIT 40 mg twice daily (n=412)—AST (SGOT) >5.0 x ULN (upper limit of normal)—11%, ALT (SGPT) >5.0 x ULN—13%, Amylase ≥1.4 x ULN—14% and zidovudine 200 mg 3 times daily (n=402)—AST (SGOT) >5.0 x ULN—10%, ALT (SGPT) >5.0 x ULN—11%, Amylase ≥1.4 x ULN—13%.** Data presented for patients of Study A155-019 for whom laboratory evaluations were performed. Study A155-019 had a median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks and a median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks. Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in two controlled combination studies, **START 1 and START 2** are provided Grades 3-4 presented first by percentage as follows: (Grades 3-4) **START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+indinavir (n=100)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN (upper limit of normal)—7%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—5%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—6%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—8%, Amylase >2 x ULN—4%; zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=102)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—6%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—2%,**

**SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—2%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—3%, Amylase >2 x ULN—1%. Percentages for (Grades 3-4) START 2—ZERIT (stavudine)+didanosine+indinavir (n=102):** Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—15%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—7%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—8%, GGT >5 x ULN—5%, Lipase >2 x ULN—5%, Amylase >2 x ULN—8%; **zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—8%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—7%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—5%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—5%, Amylase >2 x ULN—2%. Percentages for (All Grades) START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+indinavir (n=100)—Total Bilirubin—65%, SGOT (AST)—42%, SGPT (ALT)—40%, GGT—15%, Lipase—27%, Amylase—21%; zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=102)—Total Bilirubin—60%, SGOT (AST)—20%, SGPT (ALT)—20%, GGT—8%, Lipase—12%, Amylase—19%. Percentages for (All Grades) START 2—ZERIT+didanosine+indinavir (n=102)—Total Bilirubin—68%, SGOT (AST)—53%, SGPT (ALT)—50%, GGT—28%, Lipase—26%, Amylase—31%; zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103)—Total Bilirubin—55%, SGOT (AST)—20%, SGPT (ALT)—18%, GGT—12%, Lipase—19%, Amylase—17%. **Observed During Clinical Practice:** The following events have been identified during post-approval use of ZERIT. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to ZERIT, or a combination of these factors. **Body as a Whole:** abdominal pain, allergic reaction, and chills/fever. **Digestive Disorders:** anorexia. **Exocrine Gland Disorders:** pancreatitis (including fatal cases (see WARNINGS)). **Hematologic Disorders:** anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia. **Liver:** lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), hepatitis and liver failure. **Musculoskeletal:** myalgia. **Nervous System:** insomnia. **Pediatric Patients:** Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.**

#### OVERDOSEAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdose include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. Stavudine can be removed by hemodialysis; the mean  $\pm$ SD hemodialysis clearance of stavudine is  $120 \pm 18$  mL/min. Whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis has not been studied.

#### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The interval between doses of ZERIT should be 12 hours. ZERIT may be taken without regard to meals. **Adults:** The recommended dose based on body weight is as follows: 40 mg twice daily for patients ≥60 kg and 30 mg twice daily for patients <60 kg. **Pediatrics:** The recommended dose for pediatric patients weighing less than 40 kg is 1 mg/kg/dose, given every 12 hours. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose. **Dosage Adjustment:** Patients should be monitored for the development of peripheral neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. These symptoms may be difficult to detect in young children (see WARNINGS). If these symptoms develop during treatment, stavudine therapy should be interrupted. Symptoms may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the recommended dose: 20 mg twice daily for patients ≥60 kg and 15 mg twice daily for patients <60 kg. If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered. **Renal Impairment:** ZERIT may be administered to adult patients with impaired renal function with adjustment in dose by patient weight as follows: Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of >50 ≥60 kg-40 mg every 12 hours and <60 kg-30 mg every 12 hours; Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of 26-50 ≥60 kg-20 mg every 12 hours and <60 kg-15 mg every 12 hours; Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of 10-25 ≥60 kg-20 mg every 24 hours and <60 kg-15 mg every 24 hours. Since urinary excretion is also a major route of elimination of stavudine in pediatric patients, the clearance of stavudine may be altered in children with renal impairment. Although there are insufficient data to recommend a specific dose adjustment of ZERIT in this patient population, a reduction in the dose and/or an increase in the interval between doses should be considered. **Hemodialysis Patients:** The recommended dose is 20 mg every 24 hours (≥60 kg) or 15 mg every 24 hours (<60 kg), administered after the completion of hemodialysis and at the same time of day on non-dialysis days. **Method of Preparation:** ZERIT for Oral Solution. Prior to dispensing, the pharmacist must constitute the dry powder with purified water to a concentration of 1 mg stavudine per mL of solution, as follows: 1. Add 202 mL of purified water to the container. 2. Shake container vigorously until the powder dissolves completely. Constitution in this way produces 200 mL (deliverable volume) of 1 mg/mL stavudine solution. The solution may appear slightly hazy. 3. Dispense solution in original container with measuring cup provided. Instruct patient to shake the container vigorously prior to measuring each dose and to store the tightly closed container in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

#### HOW SUPPLIED

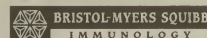
ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NOC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964 15	60	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit-flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label and in the DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION section of this insert. ZERIT for Oral Solution (NDC No. 0003-1968-01) is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water.

US Patent No.: 4,978,655

**Storage:** ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.



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USA

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# George W. Bush inaugurated president

by Bob Roehr

George W. Bush was sworn in as the 43rd president of the United States at noon on January 20, 2001. It was neither the best of times for gays and lesbians, nor the worst. But rather a biding of one's time to see what the redefined political landscape would bring.

Bush's address spoke to the idealism of America. "The grandest of these ideas is an unfolding American promise: that everyone belongs, that everyone deserves a chance, that no insignificant person was ever born."

"Americans are called to enact this promise in our lives and in our laws. And though our nation has sometimes halted and some-

times delayed, we must follow no other course." They were phrases of inclusion that all could hear with hope and anticipation.

Bush pledged, "I will live and lead by these principles: to advance my convictions with civility, to pursue the public interest with courage, to speak for greater justice and compassion, to call for responsibility and try to live it as well."

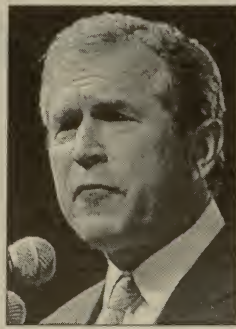
The *New York Times* wrote in an editorial, "If he governs in that spirit, Mr. Bush can lift the nation to a new era of inclusion and social justice."

For many gays and lesbians, the most encouraging moment came a bit earlier when Richard Cheney was sworn in as vice president. His two daughters held the Bible on which he took the oath of office. Mary, an open lesbian, was front

and center in the official photographs and throughout the day's events. Little was made of the fact, either positive or negative.

Mary Cheney's presence likely will inhibit gratuitous political attacks upon gays and lesbians by the far right. Her father has indicated that he takes such attacks personally. The 50-50 partisan division in the Senate means that Cheney will play a more active role in that body than have most vice presidents. He also will have an office in the House, a first for a veep.

Perhaps the most important appointment for gays and lesbians thus far has been that of Mary Matalin as counselor to Cheney and liaison between that office and the president. The media savvy Matalin has strong Republican credentials and personal ties



President George W. Bush

to both Bush and Cheney. She has been a forceful advocate for inclusion of gays within the party, and

likely will be a key, if unofficial, liaison to the community.

Lower level cabinet and other political appointments will trickle out over the coming weeks. It is likely that some will be openly gay, though don't expect the Bush administration to trumpet a count of such appointments. That is not the way they keep score.

Eight years ago, euphoria surrounded Bill Clinton's first inauguration and the role that gays played in his election. That bubble of unreality quickly burst with the debate over gays in the military. And even after seven years of access, gay and lesbian concerns were included in major government policy documents, such as the health plan "Healthy People 2010," only after a concerted struggle to assure that they were addressed. ▼

## Gay TV to finally broadcast in February

by David Batterson

After a long time in the planning stages, Gay Television Network is slated to go on the air beginning February 2 over the Dish Satellite Network.

Co-Media Inc., which has been specializing in target programming for a number of years, will launch GTN. The company also operates Triangle Broadcasting Co. Inc., which is their national gay radio network.

Marvin Jenkins, president and chief executive officer of Co-Media said, "This project has been eight years in the making. We have finally overcome the obstacles of distribution, availability of programming, and acceptance in the advertising community."

Dick Wiener, executive vice president, called GTN "an idea whose time has come."

GTN is available only through the Dish Network, the digital satellite subscriber system, as a premium channel choice. When a subscriber gets their basic package, which includes 150 channels of TV and audio programming, the subscriber will receive GTN for an extra monthly charge of \$19.95. As a bonus, a gay Internet radio channel will be added. Those who sign up now will get the 18-inch satellite dish and installation free. According to the company Web site, they "expect to be able to take GTN to 24/7 within six months."

Still, controversy swirls around GTN. A January 19 news item on a Web site ([www.tvinsite.com](http://www.tvinsite.com)) stated: "A spokesman for EchoStar Communications Corp. denied Friday that its Dish Network service plans to launch Gay Television Network." Jenkins said January 23 that he had seen the item and didn't understand why that story appeared as "we have a signed contract." Jenkins added that "we have received nothing to the contrary from Dish." Their contract runs 80 pages, Jenkins added.

A January 22 call and e-mail note to EchoStar's public relations representative, Judianne Atencio, for clarification were not returned at deadline.

Jenkins told the *Bay Area Reporter* that inquiries are coming in from cable companies, and that GTN could possibly appear on cable in some markets "in a few months." Wiener said that national advertisers are realizing now that the LGBT community is "a valuable market they want to reach."

"In the beginning, programming will be seven days a week, 12 hours on weekdays and 24 hours per day on weekends," Jenkins said.

Programming will include news, information, and entertainment especially for the LGBT community. GTN will eventually have original programming, such as a gay dating game show, gay court program, gay bandstand program, and 40 new movies each month. They plan to cover events such as the Gay Games, gay rodeos, gay conferences, and gay pride festivals all over the U.S., as well as activities at the Nabisco (Dinah Shore) Golf Tournament near Palm Springs.

The initial film schedule includes *Claire de Lune*, *Red Rain*, *Defying Gravity*, *Latin Boys Go to Hell*, *Twisted*, *All the Rage*, *It's in the Water*, *A Boy Named Sue*, *Caravaggio*, and *Edward II*.

Jenkins told the B.A.R. that many of the movies slated to appear on GTN have only been shown at gay film festivals or in limited release, and have not received national distribution in movie theaters.

Other planned programs include a morning talk show (*Good Morning, Gay America*); *Gay Archives*, a one-hour program that traces gay life in New York and Los Angeles in the 1970s and 1980s; *Gay Pride*, *Palm Springs*; music video shows; and *Gay Across the Globe*, an hourlong special that documents international gay happenings.

Also on tap are *Mardi Gras 2000* (a documentary on the celebrations from Sydney, Australia), and religious services broadcast live from Ft. Lauderdale's Sunshine Cathedral and the Cathedral of Hope in Dallas.

It's expected that GTN will produce a cooking show hosted by transvestite Betty Delicious, as well as a gay history program. Also planned is a girls' night, featuring lesbian-themed films, and a boys' night.

Gay producers and gay writers have been producing programs for years, often with limited distribution opportunities. Co-Media Inc. and GTN, combined with the Dish Network, hope to change this by providing a better distribution system for the LGBT community.

Through trade ads in the gay press, GTN's subscriber base is projected at 10,000 during the first few months; it currently stands at about 2,000. The Dish Network's subscriber base of 5 million is "a rich resource for new viewers," according to the company.

The demand for niche television programming by the advertising community has become evident by the recent purchase of BET (Black Entertainment Television) by Viacom, as well as the emergence of untraditional TV such as Microstef teaming with NBC to form MSNBN. Other networks are also in demand as noted by the increase in dollars spent for advertising time.

"The company will now devote its time to the execution of its business plan and continue seeking acquisitions to create and enhance shareholder value," Jenkins stated.

Other GTN staffers include Sean Black, vice president of programming and acquisitions; Joane Garcia-Colson and Denise Goolsby, vice presidents of women's programs; and line producer John Dunno. Garcia-Colson and Goolsby are also owners of the Bee Charming Inn, a private lesbian resort in Palm Springs.

Co-Media Inc. is a vertically integrated entertainment company that includes radio, television programming/production for network syndication, Internet, and real estate holdings. GTN's projected gross revenues for the next five years exceed \$250 million.

For more information, check out [www.wearegaytv.com](http://www.wearegaytv.com), or call 1-866-GETGAYTV to order. Previews of programming are viewable on the Web site.

GTN's corporate offices are located at 1000 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262; (760) 322-1217. Producers of gay programs or those with suggestions can e-mail the programming department at: [sean@wearegaytv.com](mailto:sean@wearegaytv.com). ▼

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# African prisons' refusal to provide condoms exposes prisoners to HIV

by S. Predrag

Most governments in southern Africa refuse to provide condoms in prisons because they fear it would encourage homosexuality among the prisoners. However, this refusal to acknowledge a very real problem means that prisoners forced by circumstances into same-sex relationships are denied the right to safe sex.

According to a recently published report by the United Nations Joint Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS), thousands of prisoners in southern African jails face the constant threat of HIV-infection because conservative authorities are unwilling to provide them with condoms.

There are no official statistics documenting the number of rape cases and homosexual relations in most African prisons, but the UNAIDS report—which was compiled with the help of southern African non-governmental organizations—claims that studies have uncovered rampant homosexuality in prisons in southern Africa.

The report claims that, "Malawi and Zambia show that at least one in eight men has sex in prison."

Homosexuality in prison is either consensual or the result of rape or another form of exploitation. "It may also be a mutually beneficial arrangement whereby a younger or weaker man receives protection or benefits such as food from an older, stronger man in exchange for sexual services," the report stated.

Mnguni Simelane, the commissioner of his majesty's correctional services in Swaziland, said that the government does not recognize homosexuality and would not encourage it by providing prisoners with condoms.

According to the U.N.'s IRIN (Integrated Regional Information Network), the Family Life Association of Swaziland—an NGO that has been spearheading a campaign for safe sex practices—had offered to provide prisoners with free condoms. But the prisons department in Mbabane, the capital of this small kingdom, declined the offer because, as it stated, "It is against the country's policy on the use of condoms."

The Swaziland Ministry of Health recently published its "Policy Document on HIV/AIDS and STD Prevention and Control" which practically acknowledged the fact that homosexuality exists in prisons and contributes to the

spread of HIV/AIDS. Still, the health ministry refuses to provide condoms to prisoners, and instead has called on the prison authorities to curb sex in prisons.

"Correctional service authorities will be encouraged to take all necessary measures, including adequate staffing, surveillance, and appropriate disciplinary measures, to protect prison inmates from rape, sexual violence and coercion," says the ministry's document.

Most African countries are homophobic and insist that homosexuality is an "unnatural" practice, imported from the West. Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has even said publicly that homosexuals are "worse than dogs and pigs..."

The only exception is South Africa, which guarantees gays and lesbians protection in its constitution, one of the most liberal in the world.

However, all this rhetoric cannot stop the spread of HIV/AIDS in many African prisons, and later on in the towns and villages once the prisoners are released.

According to UNAIDS' official estimates, Swaziland has the second highest incidence of HIV infection in the world. In Botswana one in three adults is HIV-positive, in Swaziland this ratio is one in four, while in Zambia and Zimbabwe between 20 and 25 percent of the adult population are infected.

The government in Mbabane is already expecting that the number of AIDS-related deaths, currently estimated at 50,000, will rise to around 300,000 by 2016. That is a grim forecast for a country which presently has just over a million inhabitants whose life expectancy was 61 a decade ago. At present this figure has dropped to around 39 years as a direct consequence of HIV/AIDS.

There are increased activities by some civic groups in this region which are campaigning for safer sex in prisons and in doing so are helping to reshape societal attitudes toward homosexuality.

Most experts believe that, despite the official intolerance of homosexuality, attitudes toward homosexuality in several African countries appear to be changing, with society beginning to accept it as an already existing phenomenon. ▼

## Battle for equal access to pensions in S. Africa

by S. Predrag

The lesbian and gay community in South Africa is set to launch a High Court action against the government over discriminatory practices in its state pension scheme.

Lesbian and Gay Equality Project Director Carrie Shelver said that an estimated 40 percent of all lesbian and gay people in South Africa are employed directly or indirectly by the state. Unfortunately, the South African government refuses to provide same-sex partners of deceased state employees access to spouses' pensions.

The project has already approached the Finance Department on behalf of the three applicants filing the lawsuit, but the authorities in Pretoria maintain that the matter should be referred to a bargaining council.

In response, Shelver stressed that, "We don't believe that a bargaining council is the correct forum to hear a constitutional matter such as this, so we intend to take this matter to the High Court."

When South African President Thabo Mbeki was recently asked about the pension fund payouts, he replied that a new legislative framework to address this problem would be needed.

"There is a process that has been put in place to amend the rules in the Government Pension Fund to do away with discriminatory clauses that relate to people of the same sex who are either cohabiting or in an unrecognized 'marriage' situation," added a government executive.

Not happy with the length of time the process to reverse discriminatory practices is taking, Shelver emphasized that, "This is an urgent matter—some clients have been left indigent by the government's activities."

Shelver was not satisfied with the official government explanation that the introduction of a policy change requires "a tremendous administrative restructuring." As she put it, "the govern-

ment has, in fact, adopted a number of time-stalling tactics."

She said that gay and lesbian state employees affected by the existing discriminatory regulations cannot wait for the results of "extensive studies and meetings" because they need the funds immediately. However, she expressed the hope that the government would be open to amending its policy before the matter is heard in the High Court because this would help avoid massive legal costs.

In any case, according to legal experts, whatever the High Court decides, the Constitutional Court will have the final word in this case.

Despite the fact that South Africa has adopted one of the most liberal constitutions in the world in an attempt to protect gay and lesbian rights, South African homosexuals still have to fight to ensure their equality with other citizens in many sectors.

Recently, authorities adopted the Revenue Laws Amendment Act which, for the first time, redefines the term "spouse" to include same-sex relationships.

Many battles have been won with great difficulty, but they are all the more sweeter for it. Any step forward, no matter how small, is important for the gay and lesbian community in South Africa, and these victories should, sooner or later, have a positive impact on the legislation of other countries on this continent. ▼


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# Democrats introduce historic gay-inclusive civil rights package

by Cynthia Laird

Democratic congressional leaders on Wednesday, January 24 introduced a gay-inclusive civil rights package. The historic move was hailed by officials at the Human Rights Campaign, who said it was the first civil rights bill of its kind and shows the Democrats' commitment to achieving equality for all people, including gay and lesbian Americans.

"This is a landmark bill that will pave the way for the introduction of important bipartisan legislation that will protect lesbian and gay Americans from hate crimes and job discrimination," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director. "The Democratic leadership, particularly Senator Tom Daschle, deserve special thanks for sending the message that gay and lesbian equality is an important priority. We will now



HRC's Winnie Stachelberg

shift our attention to lining up support on both sides of the aisle so we can pass this legislation that

is supported by the vast majority of Americans."

As part of a larger legislative package, the Democratic leadership introduced the Protecting Civil Rights for All Americans Act. The legislation includes six different provisions that show a commitment to basic human rights.

The first section is federal hate crimes legislation that includes sexual orientation. The second is a study that will explore the national problem of racial profiling. Section three would give more money to the Legal Services Corporation, which provides legal representation to low-income individuals and families. The fourth section is legislation to outlaw discrimination based on genetics. Section five outlaws employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The final section deals with increased funding for law enforcement agencies that deal with enforcing civil rights laws.

In addition to this omnibus bill, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which outlaws job discrimination based on sexual orientation, and the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, which helps law enforcement battle hate crimes, will be introduced as free standing bills in an effort to maximize bipartisan support.

"In the last Congress we passed hate crimes legislation with bipar-

tisan support in both the House and Senate and we expect to pick up even more support when the legislation is reintroduced in the coming weeks," said Stachelberg.

Based on previous Senate votes and commitments from new members, HRC has identified over 60 votes for the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act and a bipartisan majority for ENDA in the current Senate. ▼

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## Thompson confirmed to head HHS

by Cynthia Laird

Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson was confirmed by the U.S. Senate Wednesday, January 24 to become the new secretary of the sprawling Health and Human Services Department. Thompson, who tried unsuccessfully to remove anti-gay language from the Republican Party's platform last summer, is known as a champion

of welfare reform.

In his new post, Thompson likely will be at the center of congressional debates over Medicare reform and prescription drug benefits for seniors. Drawing opposition from women's groups, Thompson said he would launch a safety review of the abortion pill RU-486, which gives women a nonsurgical option for ending early-term pregnancies.

HHS also oversees federal HIV/AIDS policies; Thompson

seems unlikely to lift the federal government's ban on needle exchange programs, despite significant evidence that such programs curtail HIV infection and do not increase illegal drug use. ▼

## Ashcroft opponents deliver boxes of petitions to Senate

by Mark Benjamin, UPI

A civil rights group on Tuesday, January 23 delivered the U.S. Senate petitions bearing some 150,000 signatures opposing the confirmation of attorney general-designate John Ashcroft to the Senate in part of an uphill battle to defeat the nomination.

People for the American Way President Ralph Neas appeared in front of dozens of cardboard boxes he said were filled with petitions from across the country that the group delivered to senators' offices Tuesday.

The group said the "unprecedented" opposition to the Ashcroft nomination should at least give lawmakers on the Senate Judiciary Committee reason to delay a committee vote on the nomination and instead further review Ashcroft's record and his allegedly misleading statements to the committee.

"This is the broadest and most unprecedented opposition to a nomination in our history," Neas said. The 150,000 petitions were collected on the group's Web site set up to oppose Ashcroft, [OpposeAshcroft.org](http://OpposeAshcroft.org), and were compiled in less than two weeks. Neas said the group has also received 50,000 postcards opposing the nomination.

Neas said the group has had more hits on the Web site in the

last 12 days — more than 1 million hits, he said — than the group has received on its own Web site over the past year.

"We are asking the Judiciary Committee to be deliberative," Neas said. "What appears to be a done deal is not a done deal."

Democrats and Republicans in the Senate predicted that the chamber would confirm the conservative former Missouri attorney general, governor and U.S. senator. Republicans on the committee complained during four days of bruising hearings last week that interest groups were practicing the "politics of personal destruction" to defeat the nomination.

During those hearings, Ashcroft endorsed a series of gun control, abortion rights, and civil rights positions advocated by his detractors that shocked Democrats on the committee. Ashcroft's testimony on his own objections as a U.S. senator to the nominations of a black and a homosexual to two posts, and his alleged opposition while Missouri attorney general to plans that would desegregate St. Louis schools have raised some eyebrows in the Senate.

Interest groups also said that some of his statements simply do not match his record and may have been misleading. "Those inconsistencies, those contradictions are what we want to show people," Neas said. ▼

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# Bush outlines education plan

by Mark Kukis, UPI

President George W. Bush on Tuesday, January 23, outlined his upcoming education reform legislation, a plan that includes the controversial voucher proposal that Democrats have vowed to oppose.

"We must focus the spending of federal tax dollars on things that work," Bush said at the White House, where he met with key lawmakers on the issue. "Too often we have spent without regard for results, without judging success or failure from year to year."

In the Oval Office, Bush huddled early in the day with Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Massachusetts), Senator James Jeffords (R-Vermont), Representative John Boehner (R-Ohio), and Representative George Miller (D-California), who represented the ranking members of both parties on the House and Senate education committees. Bush's \$47.6 billion plan, which has yet to be drafted into legislation, calls for strict annual

testing, and a measure to allow parents to withdraw their children from schools that fail three years in a row.

The White House and Democrats on Capitol Hill point to education reform as fertile ground for legislative compromise, but the philosophical divide between Democrats and Republicans over whether to fully back public schools or explore federal funding for private institutions like charter schools remains a major stumbling block.

Under Bush's proposal, states would be charged with instituting annual tests in grades three through eight in basic skills to receive federal education funds. States would have to implement a testing regimen within three years. Schools that failed to show progress based on the testing standards would first receive additional federal funds. But, if a school showed no progress for three consecutive years, then the administration would cut federal funds and give the money directly to families, who could then use public finances for public school al-

ternatives, including private schools and charter schools.

Home schooling is excluded, however. States could choose to keep funding the failing schooling without federal dollars, too.

Bush officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, acknowledge that plan does not address some of the larger questions posed by voucher critics. For example, so far the Bush plan does not address the likelihood of overcrowding in private schools in a district that faces federal funding cuts. Constitutional challenges to the use federal funds in private religious institutions remain unresolved. Additionally, the voucher amount proposed, roughly \$1,500 per student annually, is unlikely to offset the high costs of eclectic private schools.

Bush officials insist that few children will be faced with the prospect of federal funding cuts given the turnaround success of failing schools under accountability programs. But Democrats remain skeptical, both in terms of funding for the plan and its policy fundamentals.

"All of these suggestions beg for a budget," said Representative Richard Gephardt (D-Missouri), the House minority leader. Gephardt and Democratic leadership in the Senate say that Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax cut and ambitious defense spending initiatives leave little room for a sweeping education plan.

"We leave no room in the budget to 'leave no child behind,'" said Senator Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota), the Senate minority leader.

The former Democratic vice presidential candidate, Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-Connecticut), said Bush's approach would face tough going on Capitol Hill, where Lieberman and Senator Joseph Biden (D-Delaware), are introducing a school reform plan without a voucher component.

"I don't think there's a consensus in Congress for vouchers," Lieberman said in an interview Tuesday with *Good Morning America* on ABC-TV. "Certainly, not the kind of vouchers President Bush has in his proposal, which would basically give up on the

public schools too soon and then spend money — public school money — to send the kids to non-public schools."

Lieberman said "the focus of our approach" is to "pour more money into the poorest schools, give the teachers and principals more flexibility on how they're going to use that money to meet the needs they see, and then insist on results."

"And if they're not working, close the schools down and radically restructure them," Lieberman said. "Give the parents the opportunity to send their kids to higher-performing public schools."

Kennedy said his position hasn't changed since the campaign, when he aligned himself strongly with presidential candidate Al Gore against Bush's proposals.

"I don't think we ought to abandon the schools by taking money away from the public schools in order to save them, and that's been my position for some period of time," Kennedy said after his meeting with Bush.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush would not back down on the vouchers issue, but signaled some willingness to retool certain aspects, which he left unclear.

"This may evolve over time," Fleischer said.

Bush officials said they hoped to have the education legislation written and introduced in Congress "soon" in an effort to pass the package and begin the first of the reforms by the start of the next school year. ▼

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## NGLTF against voucher plan

by Cynthia Laird

Funneling public tax dollars to private schools in the form of school vouchers poses risks to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students and teachers, as well as the children of LGBT parents, and does nothing to improve the quality of public education, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Elizabeth Toledo said Wednesday, January 24.

"It is laudable that George W. Bush wants to make education issues a priority in his administration," Toledo said. "But we should put the focus on improving public schools."

Toledo noted that the overwhelming majority of the 20,000 students who are currently enrolled in pilot voucher programs attend sectarian schools, which have as a central focus of their mission the teaching of religion. Typically, voucher programs do not require that religious schools receiving public funds ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This means that in the vast majority of states that lack sexual orientation non-discrimination laws covering employment or education, teachers in voucher schools may be fired because of their sexual orientation and students may be banned from attendance.

She challenged backers of voucher legislation to amend Bush's proposal to include non-discrimination clauses for students and teachers. ▼



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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Wayne Caldwell



General Counsel at a high-tech firm, he

Wayne's family and loved ones are desolated by his sudden death on January 16. He was born in San Diego on November 20, 1951, received his BA in Economics at Stanford and his law degree at USF.

was previously at law firms in San Francisco as well as a real-estate broker and restorer of vintage buildings. Wayne was a world traveler with a keen curiosity about people and places. He was thrilled last summer to meet President Clinton at a fundraiser in Los Angeles.

An accomplished pianist with a perfect ear, he improvised his own compositions at the keyboard. Those fortunate to know him will always remember his piercing intellect, his thoughtfulness (in every sense), his whimsical sense of humor, his devotion and kindness as a faithful friend and correspondent, his quiet and gentle nature and mien, his gracious Old World-like manners, his reliability, and his scrupulous sense of duty and responsibility. Wayne was an example to all as he courageously endured the loss of his three best friends, Gerald, Richard, and Greg. Now they are back together at last. A memorial gathering is planned for Sunday, January 28, Call (415) 285-6206 for details.

## Greg Gralik

December 15, 1942 —  
August 20, 2000



A celebration of the late Greg Gralik's life will be held in the Castro on Sunday, February 4. Long-time San Francisco resident businessman Gralik died on August 20, 2000 in Las Vegas. When Carl

Sandberg and Studs Terkel wrote about Chicago, they had people like Greg in mind. Broad-shouldered and outspoken, Chicago native Gregory Eugene Gralik was at home from the North Shore to the great steakhouses amid the now-gone stockyards on the South Side.

After graduating from Kelly High School in Chicago, he was admitted to the flagship campus of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana where he received his bachelor's degree.

During his early business career, Greg met the love of his life, Jim Large, in Chicago's Halstead Street Gay Community.

Greg and Jim soon migrated west to San Francisco where they became and integral part of the Castro social scene. Greg's unwavering devotion to Jim during his battle with AIDS in the late 90s was inspiring.

Army veteran Gralik served as a public affairs/advertising executive with the U.S. Sixth Army for a number of years — all but the last here in the Bay Area before the Presidio was closed. His duties took him around the United States — from business meetings to accompanying parachute jumps.

A lifelong Roman Catholic, Gralik was a loyal member and supporter of the Most Holy Redeemer parish. He will be remembered in the morning masses there on February 4, 2001. A celebration of Greg's life will take place at the Pendulum Bar in the Castro at 10 a.m. on that day.

Greg was preceded in death by his parents Eugene and Helen Gralik and his life partner James Large.

## Linda Evans

◀ page 1

was nonetheless surprised by Clinton's executive action. The commutation of Evans's sentence was one of a flurry of last-minute presidential pardons and commutations handed out by Clinton just before he left office last week.

"There were serious inequities in her case, like her disproportionate sentencing and unfairness of the parole board," said Katz. "We're delighted the president took this action, but we're still surprised."

"It's really nice," added Katz. "I feel so much lighter now."

Evans, 53, was paroled to San Francisco last Saturday, much to the joy of her many friends who had been fighting for her release since she was first arrested 16 years ago. Evans was, by all accounts, one of America's "political prisoners;" in other words she was sentenced to an excessively long prison term for alleged crimes which ordinarily carry much



Linda Evans

was arrested in 1970 for conspiracy for her part in coordinating a national action. These charges were eventually dropped because of government misconduct during evidence collection.

Evans later was active with political women's groups and black and Chicano/Mexican grassroots

Dublin, California, in part because the government later decided she was connected to a series of political bombings in the District of Columbia, explosions that were carefully planned to involve no injuries and to protest U.S. policies. Evans took the fall for the bombings along with comrades Laura Whitehorn (now an editor at the HIV/AIDS magazine POZ and subject of the documentary, *Out*) and Buck; Buck remains behind bars at Dublin. As for the original case involving the purchase of four guns, Evans's co-defendant Susan Rosenberg was also released last week through a commutation and now resides in New York.

Evans, meanwhile, is reportedly adjusting to life in a world that is now completely unfamiliar except for the presence of her good friends who have stuck by her side.

"None of us thought she would be released, and it's wonderful to have her back," said Judy Greenspan, a Bay Area prison activist and longtime friend of Evans. "She has a lot to adjust to, from learning what a cell phone is, to grasping what has changed politically. She'll need a lot of support and will have to decide what her life will be like at a time when the country and the movement is at a very different place."

But Evans likely will not rest, for even on the inside she continued to be active, founding an HIV peer education program for prisoners; working on behalf of Mumia Abu Jamal and Leonard Peltier, two politically active men convicted for murder despite doubtful evidence and alleged unfair trials; and co-authoring the well-known and widely-distributed article, "The Prison Industrial Complex and the Global Economy."

For Greenspan, Evans's release in part signifies a further struggle, since the victory that brought home a dear friend was likely a compromise made by Clinton at the expense of other political prisoners.

"Now that Linda is out, we have to redouble our efforts to win the freedom of Marilyn Buck, Leonard Peltier, and all the political prisoners," said Greenspan.

Evans's attorney Katz agreed.

"There were more political prisoners on Clinton's list," said Katz, adding, "we are, of course, very happy that Linda made it." ▼

**"No government looks kindly on those who challenge its policies and power."**

lighter sentences, but for reasons related to her political beliefs and activist organizing she was deemed a great threat to the country.

"The U.S. government denies the existence of political prisoners in this country. The government says they are criminals," explains *Change Links*, a progressive newspaper, about the plight of Evans and other activists. "Like Nelson Mandela, these activists have sometimes broken laws while fighting for justice, self-determination and equality. And, like Mandela, they are being punished excessively for opposing injustice and oppression."

Evans began her activism in the 1960s, fighting for women's and lesbian liberation, protesting racism, and opposing the U.S. government's imperial domination of other nations. She was a Students for a Democratic Society regional organizer against the Vietnam War and to support black liberation, and soon after

organizations. She fought against the Ku Klux Klan and police brutality in the United States, and helped build support for South African, Palestinian, and Central American struggles by organizing aid and opposing U.S. intervention. She also worked to support political prisoners who had been imprisoned for their activities with the movements she was supporting.

But as *Change Links* has stated, "no government looks kindly on those who challenge its policies and power." And so for her efforts against everything from apartheid to America's discriminatory practices, she was often the target of investigations aimed at silencing "anti-American" movements. Arrested in 1985, she was charged with harboring a fugitive and using false identification to purchase legal firearms, an offense that usually carries a jail term of just a couple of years. But Evans was sentenced to 40 years at the Federal Correctional Institution at



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# Long shots

## Athletes in film, part 2 of a series

by Jim Provenzano

Howie Long, an eight-time Pro Bowl selection as a defensive end for the Raiders, joins ex-gridiron stars Jim Brown, Merlin Olsen, Alex Karras, Fred Dryer, and O.J. Simpson in his acting quest.

Howie Long was one of the best defensive linemen to play in the NFL. Long's size combined with his speed, strength, and intensity made him unique. Long tied the Raiders team record with eight Pro Bowl selections. He played his entire 13-year career for the Raiders, and helped the Raiders to a Super Bowl XVIII win over the Washington Redskins by posting a career-best 13 sacks and registering five Super Bowl tackles.

Howie Long was a member of the last Raiders team to win the Super Bowl. Long holds the Raiders record for the most sacks in a game (5). Long was named a defensive end on the NFL Team of the 1980s and was Seagrams Defensive Player of the Year in 1985.

A four-year letterman in football at Villanova University, the honorable mention All-American was named MVP in the 1980 Blue-Gray Game. He was also a champion boxer as an undergraduate. Long graduated from Villanova in 1981 with a degree in communications. He is, for the record, an avowed heterosexual, with a wife and three kids.

His debut in leading man status is the Fox film *Firestorm*. It's all about big men, big mountains, big boots and big egos.

There's the inferno-style tension of *Backdraft* and the escaped-convict complications of *Con Air* with a little *Baywatch*-inspired casting. The firefighters are beaming, well-scrubbed, healthy specimens who look as if they should be on a fashion runway, not in the throes of a raging forest fire.

Long has the requisite chiseled features and buffed torso of an action hero. He's definitely a graduate of the Arnold Schwarzenegger-Sylvester Stallone school of acting. The fewer syllables in his words and fewer lines in his speeches, the more effective he is.

Highlights of this epic include a few scenes that oddly embellish moments of panic and danger with an erotic edge. At one point, both Long and his fair maiden (Suzy Amis, whom he's saving from pyromaniacal murderous escaped cons) jump off a cliff from a motorcycle.

But fear not. Our hero has a masculine parachute handy. The heroine clings desperately

to the solid Long, but even with all those straps she can't keep a grip.

Between the many straps, Howie's distended bulge makes a great visual, and something to hold on to, but the fair maiden doesn't, and tumbles into the river. Long later saves the day, of course, in a dazzling wall of flame.

### Long term

Howie Long also had a minor role in the sorry 1995 action-adventure film, *Broken Arrow*, starring John Travolta and Christian Slater, two entirely incredulous performances, either of which could have been performed by Long, at least with less stunt doubling.

Long also had a cameo appearance in the 1996 film *That Thing*



Helmetropolitan: Howie in Raider glory days

ty/Analyst.

After *Firestorm*'s success, he appeared in a few TV shows, *Mad TV* being a low point.

His notorious locker room pick in which, suffering from a knee injury, he applies an ice bag to his groin, has legendary status. That, and his pose for a Hanes underwear ad, are highlights, to be sure.

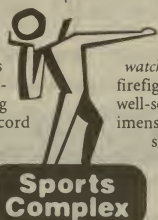
Like his former team, Long's career is full of coulda beens.

But so may be the Super Bowl.

According to Toronto's *Globe and Mail*, there are serious charges around the league that the New York Giants have been cheating by listening in on radio broadcasts between opposing coaches and players, therefore, having advance warning on every play the opponents run against them.

Reportedly the Philadelphia Eagles were the first team to complain to the commissioner's office about the alleged cheating. The Vikings also joined in the complaint after being dissected by the Giants.

Rumors around the league also claim the NFL is trying to cover up the incident since the Giants



Sports Complex



Long johns: Howie gets leggy for Hanes

*You Do*. As I recall, he did not sing or do that thing.

He looks good in Western gear in *Dollar for the Dead*, and yucked it up with comics in a segment of *Jock Jokes*, one of those cable shows.

Hollywood having not understood the potential for Mr. Long as a frequently shirtless hero, or tight-clad super hero, he's relied on his first career for his current performing job, talking about football with authority. Long is regarded as one of the top NFL analysts. He received an Emmy Award for his work last season as Outstanding Sports Personality.

His Coors ad offers a strange array of images: the strapping Long saves a gal from a snake, which darts in attack. Long uses his gushing beer can to save the day. Hmm.

Now, Howie's between TV shows, selling that crappy stuff at Radio Shack that never works. I guess the Compaq computers are idiot-proof, which is appropriate.

But the Escher-esque image of Howie being reduced to a face within a computer screen within etc., etc., saddens me. Especially considering the potential for such a robust thespian in the hands of a director like Joel Schumaker.

have qualified for the NFC's slot in the Super Bowl.

Some say that if the allegations are true, the first thing the league must do is decide what to do about the Super Bowl, that the league shouldn't let the Giants play if it is proven they used such devious tactics to win in the playoffs, or the regular season for that matter.

Why not? This is a new era of cheaters. One just moved into the White House. ▼

For more sporting amusements, visit <http://sportscomplex.org>.

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### HIV infections

◀ page 1

ies that generally concluded that gay and bisexual men are reporting more partners and more sex with men of unknown serostatus. One study, known as Jumpstart, had 662 participants and was conducted between 1993-95; the other, called VPS, had 788 participants and was conducted between 1995-97. In Jumpstart, the HIV incidence was 2.7 per 100 person years, while in VPS, the rate was 2.2 per 100 person years. Other incidence studies ranged between 1.8 percent and 4.8 percent.

Buchbinder concurred with Coates for the need of a conservative estimate, and said that an incidence rate of 4.2 percent would be too high for the general population. "I feel more comfortable with a conservative estimate. Higher numbers are more inflammatory," she said.

According to an updated estimate of HIV infection prepared last year by DPH and UCSF's AIDS Research Institute, the number of persons living with HIV and the number of new HIV infections likely to occur during the year cannot be determined precisely. "Population-based surveys, considered the epidemiological

gold standard for estimating disease prevalence and incidence, are not conducted on a frequent and timely basis due to their often high cost, duration of data collection, and technical complexity," the report stated.

Rather, in order to arrive at citywide estimates of HIV prevalence and incidence, researchers and scientists must review, interpret, and synthesize a variety of data collected by diverse methods. The report also noted that no study is without potential biases and limitations.

McFarland noted that the meeting participants "lean on the most valid studies," one of which includes the urban men's health study and others. Unfortunately, those studies — most of which include phone interviews — do leave out some gay and bisexual men, McFarland said, including those who are closeted, homeless, phoneless, MSM-IDUs and minority MSMs.

"We know there are a lot of limitations to this," he said, adding that another consideration is the fact that people are moving into and out of the city, resulting in fluid figures. He urged participants to "have a bold attitude," and to be both provocative and pragmatic.

Coates added that "estimates

aren't perfect, but neither are programs."

### Indicators on the rise

Several HIV indicator trends are on the rise in San Francisco, according to the report. Those include the incidence of HIV in a cohort of MSM, the incidence of HIV among MSM seeking anonymous HIV testing, the incidence of HIV among MSM-IDU seeking HIV testing, reports of rectal gonorrhea among MSM, the frequency of STDs among MSM living with AIDS, the number of MSM living with AIDS at year-end, multiple sex partners and unprotected anal sex among MSM, and MSM engaging in unprotected anal sex with serodiscordant partners and/or with partners of unknown status. The one indicator on the decline is not good news either; the report stated that constant condom use among MSM is down.

Some of these indicator trends were in evidence last Sunday on CBS' *60 Minutes*. Reporter Leslie Stahl talked with Coates and others, including some men on the street who reported having unprotected sex with multiple partners. Stahl also spoke with AIDS denialists, and filmed them putting up their infamous "AIDS is over" placards and stickers. ▼



## CLASSIFIEDS

# BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245652

The following person(s) are doing business as: Future of Email. 1261 Grove Street #6, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Begley Gesaci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. **JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245554

The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Magic Cleaners. 2395-42nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jose A. Chavez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/26/00. **JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245544

The following person(s) are doing business as: BC Struxure. 25 Cervantes Blvd. #105, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bryce Mason. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 12/22/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/22/00. **JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245871

The following person(s) are doing business as: Eye Q Optometry. 4017 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kimberly Tom. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/08/01. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245647

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Viking Hairstyling. 380 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mary Jane Lloyd. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/28/00. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245765

The following person(s) are doing business as: Above & Beyond Marketing & Promotions. Max Goodman. 873 #8 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ross Kenneth Grossman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/03/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/03/01. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245696

The following person(s) are doing business as: In & Out Market & Liquors. 701 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Lourdes Reyes Yu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/29/00. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245700

The following person(s) are doing business as: B.M. Painting, Carpet Co. 6 Santa Barbara Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bill Ma. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/02/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/02/01. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245682

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tatu. 1011 23rd Street #18, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Maria Cleveland. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 12/29/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/29/00. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245761

The following person(s) are doing business as: Stuart McKee Design. 1300 Page Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stuart David McKee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/03/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/03/01. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317863

In the Matter of the Application of Geoffrey Swearingin for Change of Name. The application of Geoffrey Swearingin for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Geoffrey Swearingin has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Geoffrey Gray. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 6th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245947

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sakanabune Japanese Restaurant. 5701 Geary Blvd. San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Maak Corporation. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/15/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/11/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246002

The following person(s) are doing business as: Vitalane Creative Design. 39 Boardman Place #104, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Juancho Vitangcol, vice president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/01/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/12/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245877

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sacred Gardens. 544 Los Palms Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Henry Lima. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/08/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245882

The following person(s) are doing business as: Look Of Love Hair & Nail Salon. 3901-18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Glap-Pham H. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/08/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/08/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245956

The following person(s) are doing business as: Multi Trading Solutions. (MTS) 722 17th Avenue, San Francisco 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Eun Pii Cho. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/11/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/11/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245926

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lakeside Paradise Travel. 156 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vita Burmenko. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/10/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/10/01. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317840

In the Matter of the Application of Lori Bursell for Change of Name. The application of Lori Bursell for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Lori Bursell has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Cade Bursell. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 5th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0221355

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Vitalane Creative Design. Located at: 39 Boardman Place #104, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 3/16/1998. This business was conducted by: a General Partnership: Juancho Vitangcol. **JAN. 18, 25, FEB. 1, 8, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246027

The following person(s) are doing business as: Uptempo. 2133 Stockton Street Apt. B304, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Roger Limon CEO. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/09/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/16/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246021

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pangaea Fossils. 644 Castro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard Kurkewicz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/16/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246106

The following person(s) are doing business as: lenscraft. 229 8th Street #4, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ron Lussier. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/01/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/18/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246085

The following person(s) are doing business as: La Focaccia, Focaccia. 1009 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gianluca Viscardi. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/18/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246145

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pctechs.lv. 2501 Bayshore Blvd. San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Brett Lunsford. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/19/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

## LEGAL NOTICES

### City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Proposals #196

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services announces its intent to seek proposals from individuals and organizations interested in contracting to operate an emergency shelter program for homeless adults at Multi-Service Center South.

The contract will provide \$1,673,949 over the period from

April 1, 2001 to June 30, 2004. This contract may be renewed depending on performance of contractor.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning Tuesday, January 16, 2001. Office hours are from 8AM to 5PM.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2001 at 9:30 AM at 1440 Harrison St., Classroom 2, 3rd Floor, SF, CA. For further information, call Pauson Yun at (415) 557-6523. Due date for responses is Thursday, February 15, 2001 at 5PM.

### City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Proposals #197

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services announces its intent to seek proposals from individuals and organizations interested in contracting to operate a case management-focused shelter program for homeless adults at Multi-Service Center North.

The contract will provide \$1,818,028 over the period from April 1, 2001 to June 30, 2004. This contract may be renewed depending on performance of contractor.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning Tuesday, January 16, 2001. Office hours are from 8AM to 5PM.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2001 at 9:30 AM at 1440 Harrison St., Classroom 2, 3rd Floor, SF, CA. For further information, call Pauson Yun at (415) 557-6523. Due date for responses is Thursday, February 15, 2001 at 5PM.

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 245522

The following person(s) are doing business as: Park Bench Cafe. 3214 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Samer Jweinat. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 12/21/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/21/00. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 318100

In the Matter of the Application of Celian Schoenbach for Change of Name. The application of Celian Schoenbach for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Celian Schoenbach has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Dylan Wade. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 12th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JAN. 11, 18, 25, FEB. 1, 2001**

### STATEMENT FILE NO. 246077

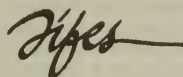
The following person(s) are doing business as: Karmo Remodeling. 822 44th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Igor Karnauchkov. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 1/17/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/17/01. **JAN. 25, FEB. 1, 8, 15, 2001**

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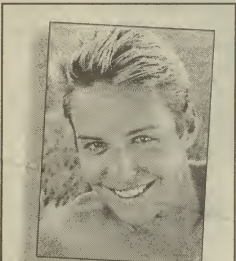
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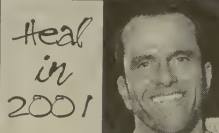


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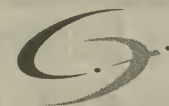
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'Snatch' watch  
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Ritchie chats up the BAR.  
page 34



Turner tanks  
'Tallulah' at the Curran  
cheapens Ms. Bankhead.  
page 32



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 4 • 25 January 2001

## Fighting against erasure

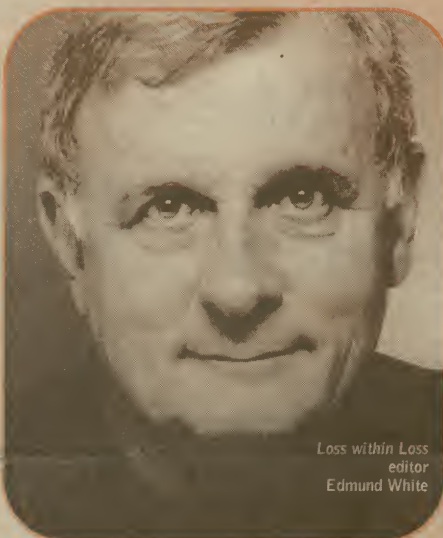
Edmund White, Patrick Moore and  
'Loss within Loss: Artists in the Age of AIDS'

by Tim Miller

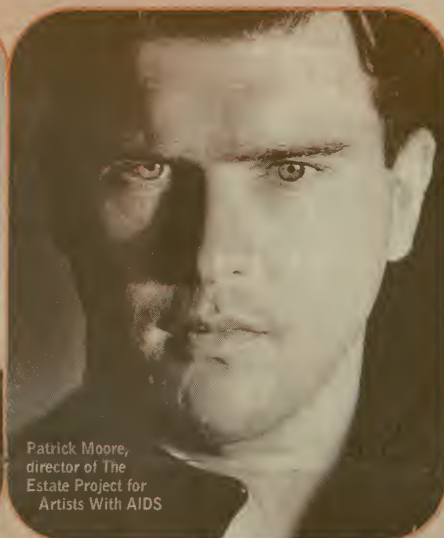
**T**he new book *Loss within Loss: Artists in the Age of AIDS* (University of Wisconsin Press) is an extraordinary achievement of witness, memory and love. Edited by noted novelist Edmund White and created in cooperation with the Estate Project for Artists With AIDS, *Loss within Loss* has brought together writers from Maya Angelou to Brad Gooch, to remember the lives and the art that were stolen from us by AIDS. Amid the cultural zeitgeist that would have us sweep HIV/AIDS under the carpet as old business, I felt a bracing avalanche of pride and sorrow, for these fierce lives lived with such heat and joy.

I could not stop reading *Loss within Loss* once I started. The variety of the lives remembered, and the power of the writers' varied approaches, made reading the book a memorable journey of great depth. Searing in their honesty, full of feeling, and pissed-off, these essays uncover new truths about one of the horrific events of the 20th century. This is a contribution to acknowledging the psychic and emotional scars of the last two decades.

*Loss within Loss* invites us to ponder the swath of genius and creativity that was taken from us so early. The reader is pulled from a stately funeral oration by Alan Gurganus on James Merrill to the angry, irreverent missile that Craig Lucas'



Loss within Loss  
editor  
Edmund White



Patrick Moore,  
director of The  
Estate Project for  
Artists With AIDS

launches on our complacency as he ponders the men in his life who have been ripped from him. In his eloquent introduction, editor Edmund White details the hot pain of love and loss that fills these memories.

I had conversations recently with White and Patrick Moore, director of The Estate Project for Artists With AIDS, who planted the seeds of this inspiring collection.

How did *Loss within Loss* come to be?

Edmund White: Patrick Moore had the title and the whole project, and approached me to edit the collection. I suggest-

ed about half the people, and the Estate Project already had picked about half. I was brought in to write an introduction and to edit the pieces.

People were eager to do it. Alex Chee, for example, brought lots of unresolved feelings of passion and love for painter Peter Kelloran. He was also worried that the painter might be completely unknown otherwise. That was really part of the thrill for people, to have a chance to write about friends and lovers who had meant so much to them.

Patrick Moore: I had hoped these essays would be deeply personal discussions of both the artists' lost and their work. We worked together for nearly two years to solicit the essays and present them to publishers. Whether we have reached a new period of

hope with AIDS or are just experiencing a lull, it is the right time to look back at the impact of what happened during the first wave. We Americans seem not to be very interested in remembering and learning from crisis. It's my hope that the book will help us see just what we've already lost. *Loss within Loss* was a title I came up with to acknowledge that, with the death of these artists, we face a loss not only of the person, but of their work as well.

The enormous, ongoing mourning can be overwhelming. It hit  
page 37 ►



George Platt Lynes

## The young Tennessee Williams' letters are published Sweet bird of youth

by Tavo Amador

**T**he journey that eventually resulted in Tennessee Williams being hailed as America's premiere playwright (only Eugene O'Neill is a serious challenger) was bumpy indeed, and his struggles, resiliency, and humor along the way are among the reasons to read *The Selected Letters of Tennessee Williams, Volume I, 1920-1945* (New Directions, \$37). Editors Albert J. Devlin and Nancy M. Tieschler have done a remarkable job in assembling and annotating his correspondence, ending with the year of his revolutionary triumph, *The Glass Menagerie*.

This material contains many veins of gold, much of them mined in the late Lyle Leverich's brilliant and compulsively readable biography, *Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams*, a fact acknowledged by the editors. Surprisingly, Leverich's suspenseful account does not render this

collection redundant. Rather, the letters serve as a splendid companion piece to that evocative study of Thomas Lanier Williams (1911-1983), capturing his aspirations, fears, compassion, innate gift for poetic language, mordant humor, and coming out as an openly homosexual man in an era that regarded it as a mental illness. All his life, Williams was plagued by the terror of madness, which underscores his courage in living openly.

The letters also confirm that *The Glass Menagerie* is an autobiographical play in an emotional, not a literal sense. Williams' family was comfortably upper-middle class for most of his youth, and his father never physically deserted the family, as the play claims. But he felt destitute and abandoned by his father's disapproval of him and his beloved older sister Rose, and by the fa-

page 44 ►

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



## by Roberto Friedman and Rocket Man

These days, when dinosaur British rocker **Sir Elton John** delights in lording it all over the place — we mean the knighthood, the English football team he owns, the blatant teetotalism — it helps to remember that he had his reckless salad days in a very public way. We mean the drugs, the sex, the clothes, the glasses.

Fortunately, the British tabloid press is always happy to dredge it all up for us again. In a recent magazine feature known as "Cash for Quotes," when **Bob Saunders** from Hexham asked if Queen frontman **Freddie Mercury** had ever "tried it on" with him, Sir Elton replied, "My God! No! Freddie liked chubby men, but although we were great friends, he never propositioned me. We were probably too stoned at the time to do it. I've never slept with another musician or anybody famous."

But "Cash for Quotes" wasn't done with Sir Elton yet. One **Debbie York** from Peterborough fol-



Elton John, right, with Queen singer Freddie Mercury, 1980.

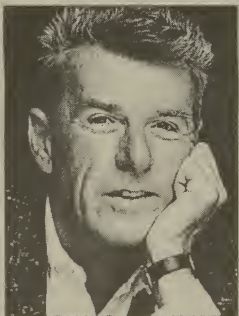
lowed up by asking impertinently, "Do you find it embarrassing when opposing football fans chant, 'Elton John's a homosexual,' and, 'Don't bend down, Elton's around?'"

"I found that very amusing

and quite inventive, I have to say," Sir Elton had to say. "I remember the vice-chairman's wife sitting next to my mother asking what they were singing. My mother was like, Ooh nothing."

## Bar talk

Out There was among the small but rapt audience last week when San Francisco poets **Thom Gunn** and **Dan Bellm** read in the LIT @ JSC series at the Jon Sims Center for the Arts. JSC director **Charles Wilmoth** has started up the queer literary series with a grant from Poets & Writers.



SF poet Thom Gunn

Gunn read from *Gossip*, a series of short, free verse poems, three portraits of gay bars. The first was the venerable Hole in the Wall bar; the second included the observation that "bartending is a form of show business"; and the third took place in the Lone Star Saloon, which Gunn described as "a gay bar which specializes in the corpulent — and proudly so." Damn square: when those bears at the Lone Star belly up to the bar, they bring along plenty of belly.

Bellm read movingly from *One Hand on the Wheel*, poetry inspired by his father's death. The questions from the audience afterwards concerned sestinas and villanelles, it was that kind of crowd. The opportunity to hear an intimate reading by two world-class poets wasn't lost on us. For information on upcoming readings, call 554-0402.

## Cow cow

The next night we were at A Clean, Well-Lighted Place for Books to hear **John Stauber**, author with co-writer **Sheldon Rampton** of *Toxic Sludge Is Good for You*, talk about their new book, *Trust Us, We're Experts!* subtitled, *How Industry Manipulates Science and Gambles with Your Future*. Stauber explained how multinational corporations employ powerful PR firms to place their own

"experts" and promotional footage on local and national TV news.

Their earlier book, *Mad Cow USA*, brought the audience discussion around to bovine cannibalism in the beef industry — the same topic which got media powerhouse **Oprah Winfrey** hauled up in front of an Amarillo, Texas court, sued for making "disparaging comments" about beef on the Oprah show in 1996. Stauber pointed out that Texas, among other states, has "agricultural product disparagement laws," which shift the burden of proof in libel away from industry. Such laws, of course, fly in the face of freedom of speech.

Oprah was vindicated when the Amarillo jury refused to convict her, but hers is a cautionary tale, since we all pretty much live in Texas, now.

## Star chill

You could say the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah is identity-based. It's all about being in the business, whether in front of or behind the camera. Sure, you might recognize **Jacqueline Bisset**, **Tilda Swinton**, **Ann Magnuson** or any number of rising, interchangeable young stars of American independent film walking down the

streets. But you may overlook the directors, producers, distributors and digital developers who are breathing the same chilly mountain air.

As we very well know, the business is also teeming with a hefty percentage of homos. Fittingly, there was cruising along with the schmoozing at the Sunday morning **Queer Brunch**, co-sponsored by Planet Out and ITVS. The Grubstake restaurant, with its knotty-pine walls, dried maize, and wagon-wheel and antique sled décor, was packed with a rather attractive crowd, not all of it gay. The "film fags" were in full force, wearing tight-ribbed sweaters under their ski parkas, while lesbian movie-shakers had a more demure, funky professional fashion sense.

The celeb quotient veered more towards insiders. Look, it's power producer **Christine Vachon**, who has her name on the film version of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. And over there, **John Cameron Mitchell**, aka Hedwig, who wrote,



John Cameron Mitchell as Hedwig

directed and stars in the sincerely glam thing. He looks plain and reserved at brunchtime, though he does have streaked bangs and a big red scarf. Supposedly he'll be performing live later in the week, sheathed in enough real jewels to warrant armed guards.

**Guinevere Turner**, who last year was behind her script for *American Psycho*, is looking fresh and glam this morning, as a friend tells her about having too many

drinks in the jacuzzi. Documentarian **Rob Epstein** is nestled in a booth talking to an unidentified cutie. **Sandi Simcha Dubowski** looks radiant, as his long-awaited *Trembling Before G-D*, a feature-length documentary about those who are gay and Orthodox Jewish, is getting good buzz. His film was feted the previous night with kosher hors d'oeuvres and a Havdalah (ending of the Sabbath) ceremony, led by **Rabbi Steve Greenberg**, the first openly gay Orthodox to hold that position. Evidently, throughout the entire religious rite, the cell phones were a-ringin'. Is nothing sacred?

## Switching over

Following up his star turn as Stillwater's bassist in **Cameron Crowe's** film *Almost Famous*, Red House Painters frontman **Mark Kozelek** has just released his collection of ten AC/DC covers, *What's Next to the Moon* (Badman), and OT says: opposable thumbs up!

It must be true that opposites attract. Lascivious ravers from the **Bon Scott** era like "Love Hungry Man" and "Up to my Neck" get the Kozelek treatment, and are turned into achingly gorgeous paeans to lost love and unrequited desire. The long-awaited Red House Painters album, *Old Ramon*, is also finally seeing the light of day. It's due in April on Sub Pop.

## Rock lobster

Yes, we admit we've been thumbing through socialite **Nan Kempner's** posh new cookbook, *R.S.V.P., Menus for Entertaining from People Who Really Know How* (Clarkson Potter). There amidst the recipes for roast squab and truffled eggs en croûte, a few nasty chuckles are to be had — for people who really know how.

The menus are accompanied by photos of Kempner's moneyed hosts and hostesses, plumping for house parties at villas in Tuscany or ranches in (yeech) Texas. Lunchtime at his estate on the Dominican coast, designer **Oscar de la Renta** looks mahvelous, but



Designer Oscar de la Renta

positively mortified to be seated next to a woman definitely dressed down, in a T-shirt that says, "I'm out of bed and dressed. What else do you want?" (Tomato salad, risotto, curried lobster.)

We have to say, though the dishes sound positively scrumptious, some of the "people who really k.h." who come with them tend to turn Out There's stomach. We mean people such as **Alistair and Romily McAlpine**, "among the most lively and fascinating of my friends," says Nan. "Lord McAlpine was the Treasurer of the Conservative Party under [evil British P.M.] **Margaret Thatcher**. Seven years ago, after two of their houses were blown away by the IRA, Alistair and Romily moved to Venice." What rummy luck — we guess they're not going to serve bombe with Irish cream for dessert. (Smoked rabbit, *crudités*, poulet anglaise.) ▼

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## THEATRE

# Gay with a power guitar

## David Hanbury's 'Personal Instrument'

by Richard Dodds

David Hanbury was "the gay kid" at his high school in a suburb of Boston, but being the only out student didn't bring the expected abuse. The guitarist was his armor.

"Growing up, I derived a great deal of power by being a rock guitarist, because I could do this thing other people couldn't do," Hanbury said. "I would get this weird respect from people who probably otherwise would not have liked me very much."

Hanbury's experiences of being a rare gay kid in a heavy metal world provided the inspiration for *Personal Instrument*, his one-man show that opens this week at the New Conservatory Theatre Center.

"But I wouldn't call it autobiographical in the traditional sense of a one-person show," Hanbury said from Boston. "We've drawn on certain experiences in my life as seeds to create the characters and situations, but they're definitely fictionalized."

In the play, written with director Juliann Rubijono, the 26-year-old Hanbury plays three characters whose stories

"sort of ping off of each other," he said. "One of them is a teenage boy who is finding his queer sexuality through his love of music. Another character is an urban gay professional who is in the process of selling his memory-laden guitar. And finally, there is a gay rocker with karaoke tracks doing a gig that reflects on his life."

Hanbury plays guitar and sings in the production, offering "the best of the best" of the '70s and '80s rock music that he favors over more contemporary fare. Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, Steve Vai, and Bon Jovi are among the performers he honors, though not always in strictly cover-band fashion. "A lot of the fun of the piece comes in queering some of those songs," he said.

"If you're a fan of this music, it's like, 'All right!,' but if you're not a fan you're still on board, because the music is helping to tell the story. The show rocks out, but it has a shaping and sophistication that makes it more of a complete artistic creation."

*Personal Instrument* had its premiere last year in Boston in a production mounted by Theatre Offensive, for whom Hanbury also played the old-maid schoolteacher Miss Fern in a queer version of *The Bad Seed*. "They actu-



David Hanbury, queering rock

ally worked my electric guitar rock virtuosity into the character," he said. Since then, he's also played a penis in an X-rated children's story called *Poona the Fuck Dog*.

Hanbury is on leave from his job as a computer repairman at a high-tech firm so he can travel to San Francisco. "I've never been there before, and I have hopes of making friends with the entire city," he said. "All you stage-door johnnies out there, feel free to hang

around after the show."

For more information on *Personal Instrument*, call 861-8972.

### New Moon rising

Please check your kryptonite at the door. 42nd Street Moon is opening its 2001 season with *It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman*, one of five "lost" musicals that will sing again thanks to Greg MacKellan and Stephanie Rhoad's tuneful troupe.

Here's a look at the five shows that will be staged at the Eureka Theatre between June and December.

*It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman* (June 6-24) managed only 129 performances in 1966, despite a rave from Clive Barnes in *The New York Times*. The campy musical has a score by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams (*Bye Bye Birdie*), starred Jack Cassidy (but not as Superman), and introduced Linda Lavin.

*The Cat and the Fiddle* (July 4-22) was a hit for Jerome Kern and Otto Harbach in 1931, with a story about the stormy romance between an American jazz composer and a Russian classical composer. Bill Fahrner, Susan Himes Powers, and Stephanie Rhoads will head the cast.

*Do Re Mi* (Aug. 3-19) had a disappointing run despite a score

(including "Make Someone Happy") by the estimable Jule Styne, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, and a cast headed by Phil Silvers and Nancy Walker. Lisa Peers will take Walker's role in the 1960 musical about dirty doings in the jukebox industry.

*The Golden Apple* (Aug. 31-Sept. 16) was an inventive musical-theater experiment of 1954 that reset *The Odyssey* to early 20th-century Washington state. "Lazy Afternoon" came from the Jerome Morris-John Latouche score that Caroline Altman and Lisa Peers will help perform.

*Leave It to Me* (Nov. 30-Dec. 23) introduced to Broadway Mary Martin, who stole this 1938 Cole Porter musical with her rendition of "My Heart Belongs to Daddy." Sophie Tucker was also in the cast, making her only Broadway musical appearance, and Darlene Popovic will take on her role.

A fundraiser will launch the season on March 1-4 at the Eureka. *Guess What's Under My Umbrella* is the title of the revue of songs from some of Broadway's fabulous flops, with the long-forgotten musical *Oh! Oh! Nurse* being the source of the evening's title song.

For more information on 42nd Street Moon, call 788-1125.

### Short scenes

• *The Vagina Monologues* is back, this time with a changing roster of stars. Nell Carter, Nora Dunn, and Carol Kane are sharing Eve Ensler's provocative pieces through Feb. 4 at Theatre on the Square. Vicki Lawrence, Rita Moreno, and a third star will take over Feb. 6-18, and third cast TBA will play Feb. 20-March 4. Call 433-9500.

• A gung-ho real estate agent, a gay travel agent, a lesbian with AIDS, and a Hungarian engineer are the central characters of *Café Depresso*, opening Jan. 26 at the Exit Theatre. Tom Vegh's dark comedy about depressed folks in group therapy is subtitled "Where Prozac, Caffeine and Black Leather Converge." Call 776-7427.

• Jekies, as fans of the musical *Jekyll & Hyde* are known, might want to check out the Willows Theatre Company's production, opening Feb. 2 in Concord. It's the first local staging of the Frank Wildhorn musical that recently ended a long run on Broadway. Call (925) 798-1300.

• Actor-director Colman Domingo, director of the current *Rhinoceros* at Theatre Rhino, left town earlier this week for New York. "I'm going to pursue more directing and acting opportunities," he said. "I'll give New York a good year. But I'm keeping my apartment here." ▼

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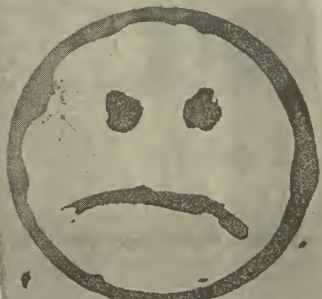
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# Up to the edge of incest

## Cocteau's 'Indiscretions' by Marin Theatre Company

by Richard Dodds

**T**act, according to Jean Cocteau, consists of "knowing how far to go in going too far." You could thus say that Cocteau was tactless when he offered *Les Parents Terribles* to Paris audiences in 1938. As far as the local authorities were concerned, he went too far with his play about a family that revels in its dysfunction. The production was promptly shut down.

Today, of course, it's harder to provoke the kind of moral outrage that greeted *Les Parents Terribles*, but the play should still provide an unsettling experience with its strange combination of boulevard comedy and creepy family dynamics. Marin Theatre Company's production of the play is close to the mark, bringing forth the essentials of Cocteau and often realizing them.

Actually, Marin Theatre Company is presenting the play as *Indiscretions*, the presumably more accessible name given to Jeremy Sams' recent translation when it was produced on Broadway with Kathleen Turner as its star and a then-unknown Jude Law showing all in the role Cocteau wrote for his lover Jean Marais.

At the Mill Valley theater, the bird-like Deborah Offner in no way suggests Kathleen Turner as Yvonne, the tottering matriarch of a family most queer. But Offner creates a compellingly tragicomic heroine, a flighty near-invalid whose infirmities disguise a deeply controlling persona. At her service are her husband, an unsuccessful inventor, and her sister, an unmarried matron who writes the checks that keep the family afloat.

But most of all there is her son Michael, a grown man with a boy's love for his mother. They hug and cuddle to the edge of incest, and to the exclusion of other partners. Yvonne's husband George, long shut out from his wife's physical affections, has taken a lover, who turns out to be the same young woman their son has been secretly courting. Yvonne can handle her husband's affair, but is truly shaken that she must now share her son with another woman.

The first act plays out rather too languidly in director Amy Glazer's generally stylish and lightly stylized production, but there is more snap to the second act as the family sets out to meet Michael's beloved, with each relative arriving with a different agenda for the encounter.

Warren David Keith, as two-timing husband George, redeems

a heretofore-bland performance with his transformation into a monster out to prevent his son from finding happiness with his ex-lover. Jenny Lord is both sweet and sad as Madeleine, who, despite her unwitting father-and-son affair, is the most "normal" creature on stage. Frances Lee McCain comes close to nailing the long-suffering élan of Yvonne's sister, and an agreeably bouncy David Agranov projects an unrelenting boyishness as Michael that finally collapses upon the tragic turn of the third act.

*Indiscretions* is a play with an edgy whimsy, something like *You Can't Take it With You* combined with *Long Day's Journey into Night*. It's a difficult tone to conjure and sustain, and Marin Theatre Company comes admirably close. ▼

*Indiscretions* will run through Feb. 4 at the Marin Theatre Company. Tickets are \$24-\$40. Call 388-5208.



Jenny Lord and David Agranov in Marin Theatre Company's *Indiscretions*

# Tallulah down the tubes

## Kathleen Turner at the Curran Theatre

by Richard Dodds

**T**he first words out of Tallulah Bankhead's mouth are, "Fuck Marlon Brando, just fuck him." Apparently, he's one of the few people — man or woman — she didn't fuck. Instead, she had him fired from a play she was starring in, freeing him up to use his "method shit" in *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Bankhead's sex life is a major obsession of *Tallulah*, the one-woman vehicle that Kathleen Turner has steered into the Curran Theatre. "I'll kiss babies," she says on imagining a political career. "God knows, I've kissed everything else."

But there is a contrived pseudo-sauciness about the zingers that mirrors the mediocrity of much of Sandra Ryan Heyward's script. Whether or not Bankhead ever uttered any of the words that have been put in her mouth, the play strains under the weight of implausibility that Turner's feisty performance can't overcome.

Mind you, it's fun to watch Turner as Bankhead prowls the stage, snarl into the telephone, and relive her triumphs, tragedies, and embarrassments. The setting is her heavily draped bedroom, as

she gets ready for a fundraising party she's throwing for Harry Truman. The second-act is post-party, as she beats herself up for the drunken mess she made of it.

"When did I become a joke?" Bankhead asks herself in her early-morning introspection. Later, as she imagines herself as *Blanche* in *Streetcar*, she realizes that "poor foolish Blanche could never hold the weight of me."

It's a self-aware sentiment that seems more like retrospective wisdom than something Bankhead might have been thinking in 1948. And even such suspect wisdom is disappointingly rare. The script is always eager to return to the toilet, the sound of which flushing provides the gratuitous aural joke that opens the show.

"My favorite number is 72," Bankhead says. "That's 69 with three people watching."

The *Tallulah* Bankhead that is conjured on the Curran stage is not a figure who deserves a theatrical invocation. This *Tallulah* is 90 minutes of cheap laughs and false tears. ▼

*Tallulah* will run at the Curran Theatre through Feb. 11. Tickets are \$33-\$57. Call 512-7770.



Kathleen Turner in *Tallulah*

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# Crash course in reality

## Human Rights Watch International Film Festival

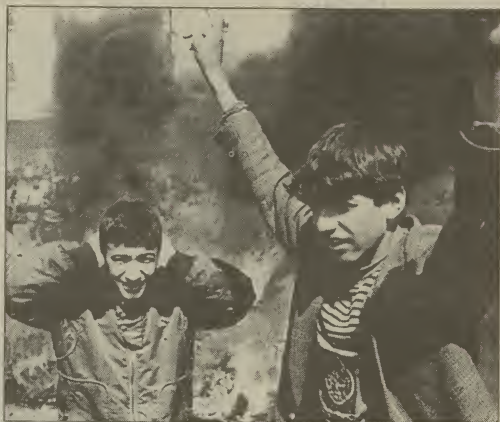
by Gary Morris

Despite an avalanche of news and quasi-news programs, tabloid yakfests, and crudities like *Cops*, *Survivor*, and the latest horror, *Temptation Island*, "reality TV" is one of the more notable modern oxymorons. The world is teeming with upheaval in practically every corner, but you'd never know it from turning on the television. Major cultural and political shifts are either filtered through the lens of titillation, blatantly misrepresented, or ignored entirely.

The Human Rights Watch International Film Festival (HRWIFF) addresses this pesky problem with one of the niche-iest formats of any fest, a three-day presentation January 25-27 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Pacific Film Archive and the Rafael Film Center.

The fare consists mostly of documentaries on genocide, political activism, nuclear plant meltdowns, labor rights issues, and other troubling topics. While this would seem to be an automatic audience-chiller, the films assembled in this year's fest are an exceptionally strong lot.

The opening film is Ken Loach's *Bread and Roses*, a fictionalized version of a Los Angeles janitors' strike (unscreened by this reviewer). Loach is a rarity, a committed leftist filmmaker, and



Kevin McKiernan's *Good Kurds*, *Bad Kurds*

*Bread and Roses* is probably the highest-profile entry here. But it's almost an anomaly in a fest in which seven of the nine feature-length entries (there's one short) are documentaries. You can't go wrong with reality. (YBC, 1/25)

Kevin McKiernan offers a crash course in an ongoing situation that has every element of a "good news story," but one that's been steadfastly ignored by the mainstream media. *Good Kurds*, *Bad Kurds* brilliantly documents his dogged attempts to bring Turkey's genocidal — there's no other word — treatment of its

Kurdish population to the world's attention. McKiernan follows several threads. One is a family of immigrant Kurds in America who face constant harassment by the US Government, afraid they'll threaten relations with one of its biggest arms customers and launching pads: Turkey. Another is the PKK, the grassroots "terrorist" group fighting for a Kurd homeland that McKiernan befriends and interviews extensively. A third is the story of Ocalan, the legendary leader of the PKK who's only alive because the European Union insisted Turkey not kill him

if it expected entry into the EU.

A fourth thread is Turkey itself, a "democracy" that's also one of the world's worst human rights offenders, with the burning of 3,500 Kurd villages and murder of uncounted Kurds to its credit. The shadowy presence behind all these machinations, dragged into the light by an unflappable McKiernan, is the US Government, whose black helicopters rain death on the Kurds. Kani, a Kurdish immigrant, is bitter on the issue of American indifference: "I cringe when I hear the interest in the Tibet issue. And I think, what would it take to interest Americans in the atrocities in Kurdistan?" Despite the power of this film (shot by Haskell Wexler), American television refuses to touch it. It's a "no-go" and "off our radar," as one executive told McKiernan. (YBC, 1/27)

### East Timor tale

Tom Zubrycki's *The Diplomat* turns the camera on another troubled realm that has received too little notice in the West. East Timor, a former Portuguese colony, was invaded in 1975 by Indonesian troops, with 200,000 of its citizens killed before it was taken over. Director Zubrycki uses a single person, an exiled East Timorese "diplomat," as the foreground figure in this grimly effective story, which covers Jose Ramos Horta's 25-year effort to

broker his country's freedom in the face of a vicious Indonesian government and an indifferent world. He's a fascinating figure, a short, middle-aged man unimpressed by the powerful interests around him. His fierce singularity of purpose and practical-mindedness — "I am not interested in ideological purity, the only thing that matters is justice" — gives him a grandeur that drives the drama. The film includes gruesome footage of the destruction of whole towns by Indonesian militias, so be warned. (RFC, 1/26)

On the local front, there's Jens Meurer's *Public Enemy*, a passionate history of the Black Panther Party. Perhaps it took a French filmmaker to dispel much of the disinformation about the Panthers, who, as the film documents, carried guns legally and started out in a nonviolent mode before the police and the US Government (via the infamous Cointelpro program) took notice. One of the doc's stars, one of the few major Panthers still around, is Bobby Seale, still articulate and happily unmellowed three decades after his heyday. Kathleen Cleaver (wife of Eldridge) was a key player in the group, and she's shown continuing her work on a smaller scale, teaching law to students who've never heard of the Black Panthers. There are a few

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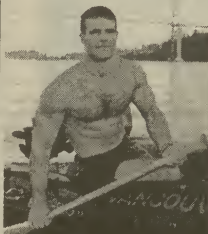
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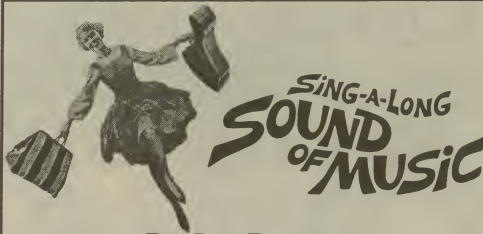
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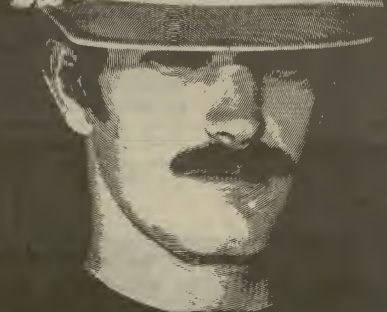
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# Guy on a wire

## 'Snatch' director Guy Ritchie can't breach Madonna's secrecy

by Tim Nasson

It's obvious upon meeting the most envied man in Hollywood, Guy Ritchie, to see why Madonna decided on him for her second husband and father of her second child, Rocco. Four days after moving from London to a home in Beverly Hills, Ritchie sauntered into the Four Seasons in Los Angeles to talk in-depth about his second film, *Snatch*, but not much at all about his marriage to the Material Girl.

Better-looking in person than in pictures, Mr. Madonna entered a suite at the hotel and settled himself into a chair. Sporting a two-day-old growth of blonde hair on his face, and wearing a black Dolce & Gabbana T-shirt with *Snatch* written across it — they're selling for over \$150 on E-Bay — and light blue jeans with dirty white sneakers, Ritchie explained that he had "shot enough film to make two movies. I had almost four hours of material to work with, and wished I didn't have to cut out as much as I did." The final print comes in at a little over an hour and a half.

When I saw *Snatch* late last year, I wondered why Ritchie had made what seemed to be a sequel or carbon copy of the cult favorite of 1998, *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*. I asked him whether the striking similarities between his two films were intentional. "Of course they were. They are definitely linked. I felt that I'd be committing a crime to the public if I did not make another film based on such characters."

The film's characters range from con men and thieves to traveling gypsies and unlicensed boxing promoters, all of whom reside on the outskirts of London. Brad Pitt, who plays Mickey O'Neil, a wildcard Irish gypsy boxer, looks



Director Guy Ritchie with Brad Pitt during the filming of *Snatch*

trashier and dirtier than ever. But that's not a bad thing. There's always room for hot, trashy guys in this world.

"Straight guys who go to the movies think that Brad Pitt is too hot and they get intimidated by his looks," said Ritchie. "Since he is so scruffy-looking in *Snatch*, hopefully they will feel less threatened."

I had to ask Ritchie how he came about the name of the film. "It's very eye-catching, isn't it?" is all he would say. I did get a huge laugh out of him when I said he should have his film double-bill with last fall's *Shaft*. "Too bad they both aren't going to be at theaters at the same time," he said. "It would have lots of families wondering if a Triple XXX theater had invaded their neighborhood multiplex."

### Pitt stop

Since *Snatch* cost less than \$8 million to make, the obvious question is how Ritchie managed to snatch Pitt, an actor who has not received less than \$20 million for a film in many a year.

"Ironically enough, a while back, I was here at this hotel and was in my room in bed, watching *Meet Joe Black* on HBO, when the telephone rang. It was Brad Pitt's agent, saying that Brad wanted to have a chat with me. I said 'Really? OK,' and hung the tele up thinking it was one of my friends playing a game with me. Fifteen minutes later, the phone rang again, and the same person was on the other end wondering why I was not yet headed down to the lounge for my chat with Brad. At that point, I just wanted to find out who the hell was playing with me, so I went down to the lounge and got a shock when I saw Brad sitting there actually waiting for me. During a couple of drinks, he told me that he loved *Lock, Stock*, which he'd just seen, and wanted me to cast him in my next movie. I told him," Ritchie said with a laugh, "that if he played his cards right, perhaps I would find him a role."

Pitt worked for scale on *Snatch* and in certain ways reprises his violent role from *Fight Club*. Back then, he'd expressed his desire to do more art-film roles. He seems to have gotten his wish.

"I make films that I would want to see," Ritchie said, explaining why his films are rife with

characters such as Barry the Baptist (who has a penchant for drowning people), Bullet Tooth Tony, and Franky Four Fingers, played by the odds-on favorite to win this year's Best Supporting Actor award, Benicio Del Toro. "Those are the characters I want to see when I go to the movies." Even actors who are Puerto Rican, such as Del Toro, who end up playing Hassidic Jewish diamond dealers are OK with Ritchie. "Having actors playing something that they are the furthest thing from is where the fun is."

Ritchie's gold wedding band glinted on his right hand. "My life has changed a lot since I took up with Madonna," he admitted. "I was virtually unknown in London before we started going out. Now I am recognized pretty much everywhere." Ritchie met Madonna two years ago at a party thrown by Trudy Styler, wife of singer/actor Sting, whom Ritchie had cast in his first film.

### The little woman

Though Madonna is 10 years over her husband's 32, Ritchie seems to be very happy with the relationship. When asked if he would like to direct his new wife in a film, he said, "I'd love to. I hope we do get to work together really soon." Rumors abound in Hollywood that the two will soon conspire on *The Mole*. Ritchie neither denied nor confirmed the story. He did laugh, without uttering a word, when I asked if his outfit at his wedding, instead of the traditional tuxedo, was a kilt sans underwear. Many who were at the December event verified the report.

"If and when I do a movie with Madonna, I am sure that she'll get paid her customary fee. I didn't even get a break when I used [her song] 'Lucky Star' in *Snatch*," he confessed. But he doesn't seem fazed. "It's not a big deal to me. Ultimately, the money ends up being spent on me anyway," he admitted.

At that moment, a publicist walked into the room and, as viciously as a rabid coyote, barked, "Guy is here to talk about his movie, not about his wife or their relationship." It seems Madonna is the head of her household and demands of her new husband the silence and privacy she also demands from the press. Madonna should be commended for keeping

next page ►

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# Young maid's tale

Buñuel's 'Diary' at the Castro Theatre

by Will Shank

There is some karmic justice in the fact that I am writing this review while seated in the West Hollywood home that was once owned by Luis Buñuel during his years of self-imposed exile from Franco's fascist Spain. It's a fluke, since my editor asked if I was a Buñuel fan after I had already planned a trip to visit a friend who now owns Casa Buñuel. The home is a small, cozy bungalow with three palm trees in the front yard and nary a slashed eyeball or surrealist painting (or the ghost of one) in sight.

Buñuel's films, too, are direct and cleanly presented. Stripped bare of all extraneous elements like a musical soundtrack, or in the case of *Diary of a Chambermaid*, any colors other than black and white, they go right to the point. But the lush chiaroscuro of the restored print (by Michel Rocher and Brigitte Dutray of Canal-Plus Image) lends a subtle beauty to the cold, gray scenes of life in northern France in the 1920s and 30s.

*Chambermaid* plays the Castro Theatre January 26-February 1. Based on the Belle Epoque novel *le Journal d'une Femme de Chambre* by Octave Mirbeau (1900), Buñuel's film is a scathing satire of the haute bourgeoisie, a topic dear to the director's heart. He moved Mirbeau's narrative in time by several decades, bringing the action into a pre-Fascist era. One scene in particular serves as a personal vendetta for the filmmaker: one of the film's most despicable characters joins a Cherbourg mob in chanting, "Vive Chiappe! Vive Chiappe!" Chiappe was the right-wing Chief of Police who banned Buñuel's early surrealist films, including the cult classic *L'Age d'Or*, for many years.

Like a Chekhov play, the screenplay depicts the screeching-boring lives of the provincial bourgeoisie who are trapped by their petty existence in a small town, and whose empty days are spent moving knickknacks from one shelf to another, or playing board games. The gaps in-between are filled with sexual longing, sexual tricks, and fetishism.

## Stable situation

A rich array of sexual situations are presented for the audience's consideration in *Diary*, from the icy sexual disinterest of Madame Monteil ("I can't, it hurts too much!") to the resulting lechery of Monsieur (Michel Piccoli). "I believe in *amour fou*," he



Jeanne Moreau in Luis Buñuel's *Diary of a Chambermaid*

leers to a cowering, unattractive kitchen servant, whose tears do not dissuade her master from seducing her in the stables.

A brilliant scene of casual confession takes place between Madame (Françoise Lugagne) and the local priest, who advises her on the ways she can give in to her husband's needs for release without getting any pleasure from the act. (The *curé* is played by Buñuel's screenplay collaborator, Jean-Claude Carrière.) But best of all is Madame's aged father, Monsieur Rabour (Jean Ozenne), who keeps a secret armoire filled with ladies' leather shoes and boots. Into this unhappy family steps Jeanne Moreau as Célestine, a chambermaid from Paris whose condescending view of these provincials is evident from the first moment.

It's a twist on the classic upstairs-downstairs scenario, since the maid knows that she is superior to these bumpkins who happen to be her employers. Her benign smile does not betray her true feelings as she is asked to perform the most mundane household tasks, or when the elder monsieur asks her to walk around his room in his cherished shoe collection. Even when he asks if he may call her "Marie," Célestine quietly complies. A hand on her leg pushes her over a line, however, and she threatens to tell Madame.

But there is method to her madness and her quiet acquiescence to the eccentricities of her employers, and it slowly becomes clear that Célestine is plotting an escape from her life of service. The small-minded politics of the provincial neighbors play themselves out as the retired army captain next door (Daniel Ivernel)

throws trash into the Monteils' garden to express his contempt for them. Célestine does not take sides, but watches and waits for her chance to improve her lot.

No model of morality herself, the chambermaid uses her own sexual charms to help to solve the mystery of the heinous rape and murder of a little girl. Célestine manipulates all of the men who desire her to her own will. All of the men in *Diary* are at best selfish, or at worst, despicable.

Watch for the subtle shoe fetishism throughout. One guilty pleasure is to share in the old man's obsession as the director and his cinematographer focus on the footwear of many of the players, from the clumsy boots of the field servant to the patent leather of the Parisian visitor.

*Diary of a Chambermaid* (1964) is one of Buñuel's most "normal" films in that the characters respond in fairly traditional manners to the situations that are presented to them. It does not carry the surreal element of disbelief, of say, the eternally displaced dinner party in *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*. As one of the high points of his later work, it is one of his most scathing indictments of the upper classes, a theme that ran through the renegade director's entire career.

Rialto Films, the outfit that re-releases classic films, promises more Buñuel goodies to come, including *The Milky Way*, *Phantom of Liberty*, and *That Obscure Object of Desire*. ▼

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## Guy Ritchie

◀ previous page

ing her children well-hidden from the paparazzi. But the way in which she and now Ritchie go about trying to retain their privacy seems pompous. As the world knows, Madonna bent over backwards, sideways and upside-down (especially in her *Sex* book) to make a name for herself. She seems not to be able to deal with her celebrity the way someone of her stature should.

Ritchie, though out to make a name for himself, and having pretty much succeeded by marrying Madonna, does not want to sell out. "I was offered the job to

direct *Charlie's Angels*, but turned it down. I probably would have done it if it had been my first film, but since I had already established my name, I did not want to sign on to it. The movies I make cost so little that the studios leave me alone and give me pretty much total control. With a big-budget film you are at the mercy of the studio's whims. *Charlie's Angels* cost more than ten times more than *Snatch*. The studio system is a beguiling thing, and I want to make movies that I have as much control with as possible."

He may have control with the studios, but my guess is that when he gets home from work each night, control gets passed on to his wife. ▼

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# The manger revisited 'El Niño' at Davies Symphony Hall

by Philip Campbell

When Berkeley composer John Adams attended the North American premiere of his new oratorio *El Niño* at Davies Symphony Hall recently, the connection between the title of the new work and the weather phenomenon of the same name should have been immediately apparent. Truth be told, the wake of this musical event will probably cause more aftershocks than the Loma Prieta quake, and the irony was certainly intended by Adams and his collaborator, director Peter Sellars.

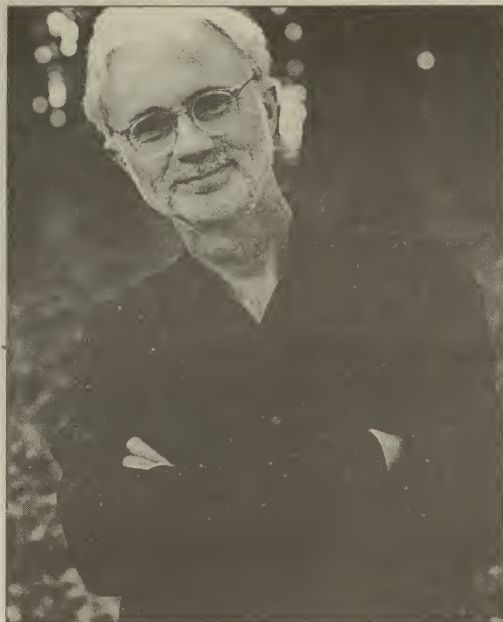
The 15-year association between the two has been something of a phenomenon itself in the rarefied world of contemporary music. Adams is unquestionably one of the most successful composers living; almost as prolific as Philip Glass, and more accessible to listeners than Steve Reich. Leaving the school of minimalism far behind, he has developed a recognizable style all his own and never looked back. Sellars, on the other hand, has become something of an aging *enfant terrible*, rather predictable in his desire to shock audiences with his brilliance.

With the spectacular achievements of Adams' operas *Nixon in China* and the oratorio-like *The Death of Klinghoffer*, Sellars' influence on the composer has been earned, but he has not always given the best advice. Does anyone remember the curious disappointment of their serious "musical," *I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw the Sky*? The lyricist June Jordan was largely to blame, but the director's contribution was also culpable. Sellars has the kind of unbounded enthusiasm which almost convinces, even when his presentation is muddled. *El Niño* suffered from his fussy attempts to make everything unfailingly hip and politically correct.

The idea to make a Nativity oratorio for the 21st century still seems a very good idea. Adams has said himself that he wanted to write his own *Messiah*, and he has come remarkably close to creating a work of comparable depth. Sellars wanted to make a mythic performance piece — a celebration of the miracle of birth — and he has come fairly close to realizing his ambition. Where the new score fails, aside from the need for some judicious pruning, is in the overwrought framework of the staging. There is simply too much going on all around the complexity of the musical score.

Incorporating film and dancers, not to mention a battery of sound and technical equipment rarely seen in the confines of Davies Hall, Sellars tried to make a "happening" out of *El Niño*, and the results were reminiscent of the '60s feel of Leonard Bernstein's unjustly maligned *Mass*, and the late-'80s techno atmosphere of the old New and Unusual Music series.

Adams was one of the founding fathers of that late great San Francisco Symphony institution, and American Mavericks has never quite recaptured the thrill of that series. Still, Sellars should have known that dredging up mixed-media performance practices, using video and enhanced audio would only be unnecessary window-dressing in a new semi-staged production.



Berkeley-based composer John Adams

## Attention must be paid

Too much attention has already been diverted from the music itself, and Adams' lengthy composition deserves repeated hearings and intense concentration. Judging by the many patrons who flocked to the streets during the intermission, and the disgruntled remarks made by those who remained, it was the showcase and not the content of the show that upset them.



Conductor Kent Nagano

Kent Nagano, another long-time Adams associate, conducted both the American and the world premiere performance at the Theatre du Chatelet in France. Soloists for the Paris and San Francisco productions included the estimable soprano Dawn Upshaw, mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt Lieberson and bass-baritone Willard White. The excellent trio of dancers here included Daniela Graca, Nora Kimball and Michael Schumacher. Since no single name was given as choreographer, we must assume their striking contributions were collaborative.

The cast was further enhanced by another trio of singers, countertenors Daniel Bubeck, Brian Cummings and Steven Rickards, and their exquisite vocalization and carefully ritualized movements were one of the evening's highlights. Adams gave the SFS Chorus some of his most theatrical and ravishing choral writing since *Harmonium*. Vance George has also had a long history with the composer, so his choral direc-

tion was wonderfully in synch.

Almost gratuitously, the children's chorus Piedmont Choirs was trooped out for the ethereal, Elysian finale. It was way past the youngsters' bedtime by the time they got their turn and, while their moment was beautiful, it was an almost odd resolution to a piece that had carried so much sorrow and pain.

*El Niño* is a revisionist Nativity, and that managed to repel a lot of the crowd. They seemed to blame the accompanying film for much of their anger, but I found a barrio Mary and Joseph, surrounded by the LAPD as Herod's soldiers, a rather illuminating take on what a Jew must have felt like in Bethlehem BC (so to speak).

I also liked the darkness of Joseph's response to Mary's pregnancy; I mean, you would have found it a little unsettling, too. White's voicing of the powerful accompanying aria was electrifying. Hunt Lieberson (sharing the role of Mary) also had an extended scene that froze time. So, too, the frighteningly intense Annunciation of the angel Gabriel. These were all big set-pieces in the better, first half. After intermission, things cooled down a bit, and by the conclusion, the Christ child's first miracle — the palm tree bending to refresh Mary, and the children's chorus' "Una Palmera" — things had become positively gooey.

With some tightening and better sound design — the bleed from the chorus into the pick-up mikes created some unpleasant reverberation — *El Niño* will reveal itself as a very impressive score.

The choice of texts from Latin American poetry, Biblical writings, and Gnostic Infancy Gospels is apt and mostly effective, though why diversity has been limited to English and Spanish words remains unclear to me. Lose the Super-8 movie before the piece hits New York, and Adams will have another hit on his hands. For now, the dancers and the cast of hundreds are more than enough for the concert hall. It was Sellars himself, after all, who said before the performance that the whole thing was supposed to take place in a space the size of a manger. ▼



## BOOKS

# The lost boys

by Jim Nawrocki

**L**oss within Loss is a heart-breaking book. As a collection of essays about writers and artists whose lives and art were cut short by AIDS, it's often painful to read. Each piece is written by a friend and/or lover of the deceased, so these essays are intensely personal. In many cases, the writers face down AIDS in all of its horrific detail; bodies and lives waste away before our eyes. Author Edmund White, who has played an important role in the lives of many of the men (both the writers and their subjects) in the book, has assembled a powerful anthology. *Loss within Loss*, the latest of a number of excellent gay studies books is-

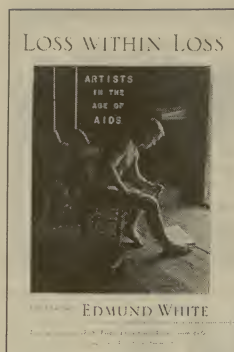
sued by the University of Wisconsin Press, is being published in cooperation with The Estate Project for Artists with AIDS.

The artists memorialized in these essays are men who practiced in just about every creative medium. They are painters, photographers, sculptors, novelists, poets, actors, dancers, designers and even landscape architects. The writers who pay tribute to them come from an equally wide array of backgrounds, and their approaches to their subjects vary tremendously.

"In some cases, the writer nearly effaces himself or herself and turns a bright, objective light on the dead subject," writes White in his introduction. "In other cases, the relationship was intensely personal and cannot be

deferred or distanced." Because of this, the collection is a kind of study of the continuum of human grief, and it derives a great deal of its power from this rich variety.

The book also offers up an organic portrait of the nature of gay male relationships. These writers are remembering dead artists who were friends, parts of circles of friends, and lovers. They are remembering men they had known for decades, or for only a short while. In "After Peter," for example, Alexander Chee pays homage to artist Peter Kelloran, a young man he had admired from afar, dated briefly, and later lost touch with. Though time and distance separate him from Kelloran, Chee writes beautifully about the living presence of Kelloran in his life. He



also speaks eloquently of the particular tragedy of an artist dying young. In an extended metaphor that is typical of Chee's gift for language, he writes: "What makes us sweat from the sun here on earth is a fraction of the force the sun can bring to bear, and this is what this lost work is to us, these paintings in the apartment with him when he died..."

## Time regained

One idea with which many of the writers wrestle is the challenge of how to preserve art after its creators have passed on. This is less of an issue for novelists and poets, naturally, but it's especially urgent for painters and sculptors, particularly for those artists who die before they have a chance to earn a large following. Jonathan Weinberg's essay about artist Marc Lida touches on this problem. Lida was a talented illustrator who produced, among many other works, a series of watercolors illustrating Marcel Proust's grand novel, *Remembrance of Things Past*. Weinberg laments

the fact that Lida's Proust watercolors will probably never be published in an edition of the novel; fortunately, White includes a few of them to accompany the essay.

One of the surprises of *Loss within Loss* is that it reveals just how closely, and widely, the artists mentioned in this book were connected to each other. Despite their varied interests and backgrounds, they formed a kind of extended community, and their lives and work and loves often overlapped. But this book isn't the product of a mutual admiration society; these writers are honest, recognizing their conflicts as well as their shared joys. Herbert Muschamp's "Self-Portrait with Rivals" is a good example. He notes that the world of gay male artists he writes about bred competition as well as camaraderie, and his essay is a loving remembrance of those he both sparred with and admired.

Despite the many depressingly frank descriptions of AIDS-related physical declines that fill this book, there are moments of humor, and even hilarity. Ramsey McPhillips' piece about photographer Mark Morrisroe contains one such moment, a gruesomely appropriate bit of revenge that Morrisroe exacts on a cruel, homophobic landlord. It's an incident, however shocking, that is difficult to read without laughing out loud. As painful as it can sometimes be, *Loss within Loss* is ultimately an inspirational book. It's as much about the healing power of art, and the consolations of memory, as it is about the tragedy of AIDS. ▼

## Loss within Loss

◀ Arts cover

me how much unfinished business there is with marking the huge losses we have faced from HIV/AIDS. What did you learn about the ongoing process of mourning and memory? What's our job right now?

EW: I think people have become quite willfully blasé about HIV/AIDS. With my own last novel *The Married Man*, I had an awful lot of gay journalists who said to me, "How can you write about this tired old material? Why did you choose to write about AIDS when it's over?" I think that anything that dealt such a huge wound as the AIDS epidemic has to be acknowledged for another 50 years at least. The book is some link to a future consciousness.

The Estate Project for Artists with AIDS is doing a great thing, digitalizing all the artwork of artists that died of AIDS. Especially those who haven't achieved fame are terrified that their work would be dispersed, destroyed, sold off, painted over after their deaths. The idea of total erasure is one of the most frightening ideas for an artist. The only reason to make all these sacrifices is that maybe your artwork will linger on for a while. This book is in a tiny way preserving a lot of these lives, and I hope it will suggest that people do similar books. I do think their stories show some of the range of gay life and the experiences that the AIDS epidemic inflicted on people.

PM: I discovered that mourning and time are enormously healing, but I also discovered that we are almost all willing to speak ill of the dead. I think that AIDS deaths carry with them an enormous amount of unresolved emotions that are pretty clearly seen in these essays.

That complexity moved me — the searing honesty the writers express about how layered, even contradictory, their feelings are about the dead. Ramsey McPhillips' piece on enfant terrible artist Mark Morrisroe is so unflinching and tough on this multi-faceted person.

EW: We were all thinking of cutting that one, and actually my boyfriend, Michael Carroll, read it and said, "Are you kidding? This is the most lively and honest piece in the whole book." Thank God he spotted it and we all came around to his way of thinking. I think a lot of American AIDS fiction has been kind of sentimental, full of deathbed scenes where everyone is behaving in this noble way. Because these essays are nonfiction,

they tend to show the nitty-gritty of people's lives with a lot less sentiment than American fiction.

Did you encourage that forthright-ness?

PM: We only encouraged writers to write at a deeply personal level. The writers were honest enough to present these complex portraits.

EW: One thing that is due to the dead is absolute honesty. There is a tendency to have a kind of piety that sets in almost automatically when someone dies. It's part of all our rituals. Yet it seems to me that's particularly insulting to these artists who had such vivid and quirky lives, that they should be obliterated by some kind of alabaster monument.

Really, one of the strong points of the book is that the writers kept in their own mixed feelings towards the subjects, showing in most cases how these weren't well-rounded people who had lived a full span of life. These were lives that had been rounded off and can be honored best with unflinching truthfulness. The writers get that quality very well, of these lives and creative projects that were brutally cut off. A lot of these artists represented a last gasp of American bohemianism that has gone out of the world. The book puts the reader in touch with these people who didn't care that much about money or fame, but in the quality and integrity of their art.

I was struck by some of the surprising corners of the book, as in the story of Bruce Kelly, the landscape architect of Strawberry Fields in Central Park. How did you face the daunting task of choosing which life/art stories to include?

PM: We thought mostly about the writers who we felt would have something interesting to say. We did also try to strike a balance between performing arts, visual arts and literature.

We are basically historians at the Estate Project. Who was lost? What was made? What does it reveal about our culture? There have been very few nonfiction books about AIDS that take such a subjective view. Whether it is a film, a video, a dance score, a painting or this book, we hope that someone many years from now will understand the actual experience of AIDS rather than just the facts.

EW: I think for the gay community we need to really see the biggest problem looming in the world right now is AIDS in Africa. I'm not sure that gay AIDS organizations like GMHC can do much in a concrete way for Africa, but there are skills we can share.

For a younger reader, I hope that it makes the disease and its consequences and the actual experience of living and dying with AIDS intensely vivid. The average age of person becoming infected with AIDS globally is 15. I'm not saying lots of 15-year-olds are going to buy this book, but I hope it gives everybody, young or old, a new, vivid reason for trying to stay negative.

PM: I hope the reader finds a recognition of what richness artists bring to our lives, aside from the relative importance of their artwork. America is so caught up in success that we often forget about the great value of individuals just living their lives. AIDS compresses a life so much that we need to measure an individual's accomplishments in a different way. ▼

Edmund White gives a talk and book signing on Monday, February 12, 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theater, 401 Van Ness Ave. Tickets are \$17; all proceeds go to The Estate Project for Artists with AIDS. Call (415) 392-4400.

Tim Miller is a solo performer and the author of *Shirts & Skin*.

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# Losses and gains in leatherdom

by Mister Marcus

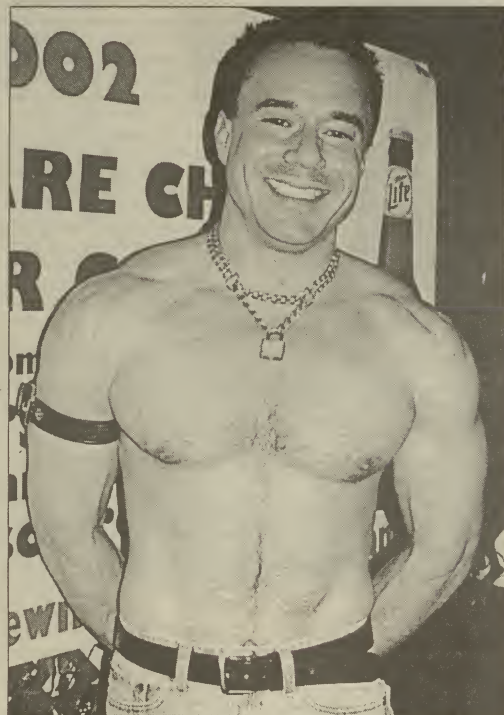
The leather community has a lot to look forward to in the coming weeks: at least a dozen more leather contests, some anniversaries, some great fundraisers, various leather weekends and, sadly, celebrations of the lives of those who have gone to the great beyond, leaving us grieving and wondering why.

First, in news of the dear departed, our own George Carreras departed this earth just after my column went to the printer last week. Cutting a dashing figure in our corner of the world, the handsome George on his motorcycle always turned heads. He was the first runner-up in the 1996 Mr. San Francisco Leather contest, and also among the top 20 at International Mr. Leather that same year, sponsored by Mercury Mail Order.

It was no secret that George's favorite place in the world was Buena Vista Park and so, on Saturday, February 10, a celebration of his life will take place there at 1300 hours, followed immediately by an open-mic at Daddy's. Bikers are especially invited to participate. George was a free spirit, and his lifestyle reflected his liberated countenance.

On the East Coast, no one will ever forget the moment when Ed Ryder swept onto the stage at IML in a silver fox fur coat with a huge cigar clenched in his snow-white teeth. He tossed the coat on the floor and emcee Frank Nowicki quickly scooped it up and tried it on. Ed didn't win the title that year, but that little scene endeared him to the audience, and he was one of the most popular people in the Washington, D.C. Metro area. Final plans for Ed's memorial service have not yet been completed, but I'll let you know the details when they're available.

Both George and Ed would not want us to grieve. They were both fun-loving, caring and dedicated individuals. Both suffered immense pain before leaving us, and we know now they are freed of the burdensome medical requirements, treatments and other therapies. Everyone who knew them will miss them both.



Scott Brogan is Mr. January 2002, chosen on Thursday, Jan 11, 2001 at the Powerhouse. Mr. February will be chosen on Thursday, January 25 at the same venue, at 2100 sharp.

## Cumming attractions

Yet life goes on, and the coming weeks are chock full of events that may interest you.

The quest for Mr. Leather of San Francisco continues with the Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2001 contest on Friday, January 26 at 2200. Cash prizes, a leather title-vest, and sponsorship in the Mr. SF Leather contest are only a few of

the prizes for the winner. Lance Gear will emcee his own stepping down. Many of you will be attending Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt's Breast Cancer dinner at the Cliff House earlier that same night (and, yes, it is sold out!), and "Mama" and her boys are providing a shuttle bus from there to the Powerhouse so you will not miss a thing.

Mr. Texas Leather 2001 takes

place on Saturday, January 27 at the Dallas Eagle, and the SF Chapter of the Defenders celebrate their 7th anniversary at the Eagle the same night. In Los Angeles, the Faultline stages their Mr. Faultline Leather 2001 contest, and in Anchorage, Alaska, Mr. and Ms. Leather Alaska 2001 (and three other titles) will be staged during the Black & Blue Ball at Mad Myrnas.

The 15 Association's first party of the year takes place on the same date (call 673-0452 for location and invitation). As always, it's BYOB and your guests must accompany you.

Earlier in the day on the 27th a memorial service will take place in the patio of the Eagle for David Speer, one of the finest leather tailors (Image Leather) on the West Coast. David was quiet, unassuming, extremely talented, well traveling, well page ▶

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, January 25

Mr. February 2002 will be chosen at the Powerhouse at 2100 hours tonight. Judges: Lance Gear, Graylin Thornton and Steve Gaynes. Win \$100 cash, fame, and lots of volunteerism.

At the Edge, Bob Miller celebrates his birthday with a \$7 beer/soda bust to benefit the Stop AIDS Project, with Sheba, Doug Stevens, and raffle.

### Friday, January 26

Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2001 contest at 2200. Lance Gear passes the sash to a new man, with David Kloss, Pam Meyer, and Niq Shelbi judging.

"Mama" Reinhardt sells it out, but it's a Beast Cancer Benefit at the Cliff House. She will furnish shuttle buses to the Powerhouse immediately following the dinner.

"Black Out" Party at the Russian River Eagle — it's a Jake's Thing event.

### Saturday, January 27

Defenders MC 7th Anniversary; at the Dallas Eagle, it's the Mr. Texas Leather contest. Winner competes at IML in May and it's Mr. Faultline Leather 2001 contest at that fabled bar in Los Angeles. In Anchorage, Mr. and Ms. Alaska Leather contest at Mad Myrnas at the Black & Blue Ball.

### Sunday, January 28

Keith Truitt and Rick Salinas celebrate their birthdays at a beer/soda bust at the Edge, 1900-2200.

### Thursday, February 1

Mr. March 2002 bare chest contest at Harvey's. I will emcee the event with judges Tom Rogers, Donna Sachet and Chicago's Thom Dombkowski. Win \$100, fame, glory, volunteerism. This one should be good!

### Wednesday, February 7

Mr. Daddy's Leather 2001 contest at Daddy's, at around 2100, with lots of fun. Details to come.



## POLKSTRASSE

## View from the catwalk

by Sweet Lips

Uncommon, untraditional and unbelievable promises to be Cockatielia's new drag assault, 'Til Friday, at the Club Rendez-Vous. She and her girls Kitty Glamour and Suppositori Spelling open at the Club on Friday, January 26, with two shows, at 10:30 p.m. and Mid-night.

The best seats in the house to view the multilevel stage area are on the catwalk, so come early and get your table.

Super Bowl Sunday is January 28, and the R-V is having its annual bash with a beer bust, raffle prizes, and BBQ chicken 'n' fixin's by Dennis "Cowgirl" Tyler. Party starts at 2 p.m.

Welcome to Polkstrasse, "Har-

vey's on Polk." Sweet Lips says, I sure do hope they serve the same great food. Nice to hear that Colorado Frank is still on the plank at the Hob Nob on Geary, while just down the street at the Gangway, we find the talented Robert selling spirits.

It's the year of the ssssserpent (watch your s's, girls), and who better to celebrate Chinese New Year with than

our own Empress of SF Suzie Wong. Her Most Imperial Majesty brings her annual event to the Club Rendez-Vous on Sunday, February 4, with food and entertainment.

Just when you thought football season was over, a brand-new ex-

treme football league has started, and SF has a new team to cheer, the Demons. Club R-V will show all of the games of this new, no-

rules XFL. The first Demons game broadcasts February 4 at 1 p.m.

Yessiree, Sweet "Oldest Bartender in SF" Lips is back, after a month off due to illness.

Thanks for all the cards and messages of cheer, and big

thanks for helping me out: Dennis, Jim Welsh, David Kapp, Steve Rascher.

4th time this season: Dickie Deemer has taken off again for Puerto Vallarta to see Ramon. Dick Cook's birthday is February 2 — hey, that's Groundhog Day! ▼

## Cocktail Hour

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

and everyone's favorite.

On Sunday, January 28, of course it's Super Bowl XXXV, with two teams that surprised everyone in the NFL. There is also a birthday beer bust and celebration for Daddy Keith Truitt and Rick Salinas at the Edge from 1900-2200, with Red Donna and Lenny Broberg emceeing and featuring my fave Solomon Rose and Mr. Gay SF Phillip Evans.

The Cal Eagles MC celebrate their 17th anniversary on February 3, and Mr. Bullet Leather contest is at that bar in Southern California. It's also the Imperial Gala when the candidates for emperor & empress will be introduced. On Wednesday, February 7th, Mr. Daddy's Leather Contest takes place at 2100 and the next night, February 8, Mr. April 2002 on the bare chest calendar will be chosen at the Powerhouse.

The weekend February 9-11, it's Portland Uniform Weekend in Portland, Oregon, and on Saturday, February 10, it's the Mr. Los Angeles Bear contest at the Faultline. The winner will compete at the International Mr. Bear contest here the weekend of February 16-18.

That same weekend, the Pan-

theon of Leather Awards takes place in New Orleans, and in Chicago, Mr. Cell Block Leather will be chosen at Leatherfest 2001. Also on Saturday, February 17, the Inter-Club Fund Awards will take place with a sit-down dinner and the incomparable "Lurch" emceeing. In London, Mr. Hoist Leather will be chosen and the winner competes at IML Sundance Saloon presents a sweetheart ball on February 18th at 174 King Street, and the Mr. Edge Leather 2001 contest is on Thursday, February 22.

The 15 Association celebrate their 14th Anniversary on February 23 at the Cliff House, and the Mr. Holland Leather contest takes place in Amsterdam on Saturday, February 24; you can vote for emperor and empress today as well. Pushy Phyllis and Bob Pace celebrate the 20th anniversary of their crowning as emperor and empress at LeeOna's tonight as well. And all this is just for February!

## God-Damned goodbye

The God-Damned Independents (GDIs) celebrated their 27th and final anniversary last Saturday at the Eagle, with hosted cocktails and a fine buffet dinner. A big crowd was on hand when it was announced by president Tom Galante that the club is disbanding and many emeritus and associate members were announced,

as well as the current membership and officers. An all-too-brief history of the club's accomplishments was given, and the SF Forum presented Tom a plaque of appreciation for all his hard work keeping the club together. The event marked another historical moment in the annals of leather.

## Correction

Last week I mentioned that Ralph Peterson (President), Glenon Sutter (VP), Werner Tillinger (Treasurer), and Jeff Bruff (Secretary) were the new officers of SM-MILE, when in fact, they are the new officers of the AIDS Emergency Fund! My apologies to all concerned. But I do repeat, it's leather-heavy, and hopefully it will remain so as it was in the beginning!

## Another new sash

The Mr. Suncoast Leather 2001 contest was held at that resort in St. Petersburg, Florida last Saturday night. Earl Thomas stepped down and the new Mr. Suncoast Leather is Bruce Ross of Jacksonville, Florida, a hunky, hairy, million-dollar-smile dude who should do well at IML. The first runner-up was David Bernstel of Miami, another hunk if there ever was one! The IML rosters is getting bigger and bigger, and there are some real hunks this year. ▼

## Human Rights

◀ page 33

surprises here; at least this reviewer didn't know that Nile Rodgers, leader of the great disco group Chic and producer of renown, was a Panther. (YBC, 1/27)

Slightly farther afield but still very much in the minds of many are the protests against the WTO in Seattle in 1999. This event in all its ragged glory is well captured in Shaya Mercer's crazy-quilt doc coyly called *Trade Off*. There's a familiar but fun sense of the left celebrating a success before it happens, with protesters dressing like turtles, whirling giant multicolored hula hoops, doing radical cheerleading in drag. But as the film shows, this was also a serious event that made partners of such disparate groups as steelworkers and street-theater folk. Ultimately the combination worked. As a Seattle newspaper headline blared, "Summit Ends in Failure." Among the film's many small pleasures: an earnest young man dressed as a giant bee trying to explain global politics to a nonbeliever, and WTO officials finally made as un-

comfortable as they're making the rest of the world by having to nervously fight their way through a crowd of colorful protesters. (RFC, 1/27)

A couple of the docs are familiar from other local fests. Deborah Hoffmann and Frances Reid's superb *Long Day's Journey into Night* focuses on South Africa's TRC (Truth and Reconciliation Commission), particularly examining the lethal, lingering effects of apartheid on a variety of victims of both colors. (PFA, 1/26)

Another familiar work worth revisiting is Heddy Honigmann's *Crazy*, which has a unique conceit. Director Honigmann interviews mostly Dutch soldiers who served in peacekeeping missions in the most volatile areas of conflict, from Bosnia to Rwanda to Cambodia. Each interviewee has a favorite song associated with the service that's played to elicit a reaction. These reactions cover a wide emotional geography, from denial to near-breakdown as the often brutal encounters experienced are recalled. There's an undeniable voyeurism in a film that forces people to relive traumas, but an equally undeniable power



From Heddy Honigmann's *Crazy*

in watching them acknowledge the reality of their experiences. One soldier who served in Lebanon sums it up with terse poetry: "We were changing from cheerful kids to bitter men in a small world." ▼

Film Fest website at [www.hrw.org/iff](http://www.hrw.org/iff)

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon

### Cinematic techniques

To almost any showing of obscure art films in San Francisco flock many erudite fans, all very serious about appreciating artistic integrity; non-linear, non-narrative approaches; unknown actors; quirky angles, lighting, scene-shifting, and editing; fuzzy meanings; and countless other tics and quirks of the avant garde.

Both reflecting and generating much of the local enthusiasm for off-beat cinema is **San Francisco Cinematheque**, one of the city's most venerable and respected arts organizations, which for more than 30 years has been collecting and screening films generally acclaimed for their "visionary" qualities, but dismissed as commercially unviable. While the Castro, Red Vic, ATA Gallery and Roxie theaters regularly screen oldies and cult films, only Cinematheque, under the direction of Steve Anker, with Irina Leimbacher serving as Artistic Co-Director, retains that certain *je ne sais quoi* of authority when it comes to the presentation of independent film.

Never was that more true than with the **Winter 2001 Season**, which kicks off this Thursday, February 1 in the screening room at **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** (YBCA), one of two presentation locales, along with **San Francisco Art Institute**. At 7:30 p.m. that night, Cinematheque offers up "The Multiple Personae of Francesca Woodman and Isabelle Eberhardt: Experimental Bios by Elisabeth Subrin and Leslie Thornton." Subrin's *The Fancy* (2000, Bay Area premiere) explores the life of photographer Woodman, raising questions about history and fantasy, female subjectivity, and issues of authorship. Thornton's 1987 *There Was an Unseen Cloud Moving* is a re-enactment of Eberhardt's life, played by six different actresses portraying the rebellious energy of this young woman who left Europe to travel extensively in North Africa, where she converted to Islam, dressed as a man, and wrote essays on Islamic life.

Of particular interest to queer cineasts are the "New Warhol Restorations" upcoming on February 10 and 17 at YBCA. The first of these programs includes the rarely screened *Couch* (1964) and *Sunset* (1967). Using Warhol's early cinematic style of a fixed camera and long take, *Couch* is an episodic film depicting a succession of visitors engaged in various social and sexual situations on the Factory sofa. Among others, it features Allen Ginsberg, Peter Orlovski, Gregory Corso, Jack Kerouac and Taylor Mead. *Sunset* is Warhol's recording of a beautiful California sunset.

The second restored-Warhol presentation features *Imitation of Christ* (1967-69), a domestic comedy (of sorts) about a strange but beautiful young man who wanders through life oblivious to the complaints of his parents (Ondine and Brigid Berlin) and the attempted seductions of his maid (Nico), his girlfriend (Andrea "Whips" Feldman), and the irrepressible Taylor Mead.

Look to "Out & About" in the coming weeks for further listings. ▼

For a complete listing of Cinematheque 2001 screenings, visit the organization's website at [www.sfcinematheque.org](http://www.sfcinematheque.org)



Blue Period performs at the new club "Glitz" at the Paradise Lounge. See Saturday.

## Eri 26

### Exit Theatre

Opening night: Tanta Productions presents "Café Depresso," where Prozac®, caffeine and black leather converge, a dark comedy by Tom Vegh, directed by Dawson Moore. Café Depresso, more a state of mind than a cyber java joint, is peopled by a spitfire real-estate broker, a gay travel agent, a 30-something lesbian with AIDS, and a Hungarian engineer. This dark comedy follows four San Franciscans in group therapy for depression as they encounter an onslaught of change and surprises when two group members disappear. Featuring Maria Biber-Ferro, Matt Burns, Barbara Early, Christopher Libby, Stephen Pawley, Samuel Sheng and Kathleen Stefano. \$15. 8pm. Fri. & Sat. thru March 3. 156 Eddy St. Tix/info: 776-7427; [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com); [www.cafedepresso.com](http://www.cafedepresso.com)

### Club Rendez-Vous

Grand premiere: Cockatielia presents "TilFridays: Annihilating the Stage," an untraditional cabaret show and drag assault, featuring Kitty Glamour and an all-star cast. Showtimes at 10:30pm & midnight. It happens every other Friday (next show Feb. 9). 1312 Polk St. (at Bush). Info: 673-7911; [www.clubrendez-vous.com](http://www.clubrendez-vous.com)

### CCAC Institute

Two events: Opening reception for "Mise en scène: New LA Sculpture" with works exhibiting an irreverence toward material and finish, and responding to LA as a source of inspiration. Free. Curator's talk 6-7pm in Timken Lecture Hall; reception 7-9pm in the Logan Galleries. Also: Small Press presents "Crosstown Traffic," an

evening of music poetry and visual art with Kevin Killian, David Cook, Mark Gergis, and Arnold Kemp. \$5. 7:30pm. Timken Lecture Hall. California College of Arts and Crafts, 1111 Eighth St. Info: 551-9210; [www.ccac-art.edu/institute](http://www.ccac-art.edu/institute)

### ODC Theater

"First Migration," the first in a new performance series featuring works by four emerging Bay Area choreographers, Kerstin Kussmaul, Brenton Cheng, Laura Marsh and Rachael Lincoln. \$12 gen'l adm. (\$10 advance). 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; [www.odc-dance.org/theater](http://www.odc-dance.org/theater)

### Victoria Theater

"The Shades of Power Festival 2001: Alliance Building with Film and Video," screening works that illustrate examples of alliance building among African-American, Latino, Asian American, Native American, Pacific Islander and American Arab communities. Tonight: "Bus Riders Union," directed by Haskell Wexler, a documentary of grassroots, multiracial activism in Los Angeles. \$5. (\$2.50 students, disabled, low-income). 7pm. 2961 16th St. Info: [www.multiracialjustice.org](http://www.multiracialjustice.org)

## Sat 27

### New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Personal Instrument," a solo show starring David Hanbury, written by Hanbury and Juliann Rubijono, directed by Rubijono, presented by NCTC in association with The Theater Offensive — Boston. A supersonic, one-man rock musical tracing the intertwining journeys of one electric guitar and the fingers that caress it. A queer

teenage rocker communes with his straight guitar god; an urban gay professional with a penchant for aural sex takes out an ad to sell his guitar; a road-weary rock troubadour and his guitar-companion explore the sexual and philosophical meaning of Jimi Hendrix's left hand. Fueled by Hanbury's characterizations, guitar licks and blues-rock vocals, the show "queers" the music of Hendrix, Led Zepplin, and Bon Jovi as it rocks the stereotypes of gay identity. \$20 Fri./Sat.; \$17 Wed./Thu. Thru Feb. 10. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix: 861-8972.

### space 550

Gus presents the return of



Barbara Pitts, left, Amy Resnick, foreground, and Kelli Simpkins perform Encore Theatre Company's *I Think I Like Girls* at The Thick House. See Thursday.

"Metropolis," bigger, stronger, and faster, featuring DJ Dawna Montel of LA (Superball); DJ Roland Belmares of Austin (Reunion); upcoming at Great America; DJ Trane (Boyz on the Bay; Pure T; Superball); and DJ Jim Hopkins ([twitchrecordings.com](http://twitchrecordings.com)). A scene bursting with hot men bursting their pants. The house never gets hotter than this. \$20 (free b4 10:30pm w/flyer; \$10 b4 11pm w/flyer). 550 Barneveld (at Oakdale/Industrial). Info: [www.guspresents.com](http://www.guspresents.com)

### Paradise Lounge

Grand Opening: "Glitz," a new glamorous rock 'n' roll party thrown the last Saturday of each month by glam rockers Blue Period (*Nightlife Casualties*) together with kick-ass guest bands and hot rock 'n' roll DJ Danny. A party scene of vinyl and feathers, gender contortionists, sexy go-go dancers, hair and make-up booths (for emergency makeovers), film projections and paparazzi. Bands play on the hour, every hour. Tonight's guest bands: Cellophane Masses (Andy Stephens and Liam Hart; melodic, dark, moody, electronic rock) and Mary Magdalene (from LA — need more be said?). VIP lounge hosted by Blood & Butter Productions. Be a star or just look like one. The Paradise Lounge has long supported original music, including queer bands. \$10 cover, \$5 before 10pm. 9pm-whenever. 308 11th St. (at Folsom). Info: [www.Blue-Period.com/Glitz](http://www.Blue-Period.com/Glitz)

### Community Music Center

"SF Sound Collection," an evening of new clarinet music performed by Matt Ingalls, a force in the new-music movement. Featuring new works written for Ingalls by a collection of young Bay Area composers: Joseph L. Anderson, Thomas Day, Morgan Guberman, Dan Joseph, Brian Kane and John Shiurba, as well as a composition by Ingalls himself. Works range from modernist sonata form and minimalism variations, concrete and electroacoustic noise, to structured improvisation and timbral extensions of the clarinet. As a backlash against the dumbed-down MTV generation, these young composers have a commitment to furthering the so-called "unpopular" forms of music extending from the classical, free-improv, and electronic/concrete disciplines. Free. 8pm.

544 Capp St. Info: (510) 444-3595 (Matt Ingalls); [sf-sound.org](http://sf-sound.org); [sfmusic.org](http://sfmusic.org)

### Venue 9

Rosin Coven, Pagan Lounge Productions, & Footloose Productions present "Dream of the Scarab: A Beetle Bagatelle," an operetta following the life and struggles of a circus beetle, Beetle B. Bulkowski, as he travels from his dung-heap to the big top and beyond in a desperate attempt to escape his earthly destiny. Rosen Coven's nine members will act, sing, and dance to their original music and lyrics. Special guests will perform as an organ-grinder monkey, a fire-eating little girl, a dancing puppeteer, a circus clown, and many more whimsical characters. A pioneer of a new style of musical theatre, Rosin Coven creates a bewitchingly complete musical environment they call The Pagan Lounge. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also on Feb. 2 & 3. 252 Ninth St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Tix/info: 289-2000; [www.ftloose.com](http://www.ftloose.com); [www.rosincoven.com](http://www.rosincoven.com)

### New Ansel Adams Center

Opening day: "Beyond Boundaries: Contemporary Photography in California," organized by The Friends of Photography, curated by Nora Kabat, featuring some 170 works by 64 artists selected from a pool of more than 300 photographers. Plus "Ansel Adams: Selections," images from The Friends' permanent collection. These exhibitions inaugurate the new home of the Ansel Adams Center, now located around the corner from SFMOMA, less than a block from Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Five light, airy galleries plus an expanded bookstore occupy 6,100 sq. ft. on the ground floor of the space designed by SF's Pfau Architecture. Free on opening day; otherwise \$5 adults; \$3 students; \$2 seniors/youth 13-17; free for members and children under 13. 11am-5pm every day (open till 8pm first Thursday of each month). 655 Mission St. (btwn New Montgomery & 3rd St.). Info: 495-7000; [www.friendsofphotography.org](http://www.friendsofphotography.org)

### Omnircircus Theatre

Omnircircus and the Slavation Army Performance Group present "Undermind Railroad," directed by Eric Kenyon, a Butoh-Surrealist musical comedy exploring self-imposed slavery and the desperate delusion of modern industrial society. Featuring classical vocalist Rebecca Seaman; multidisciplinary vocalist Erin Kuperman; performance artist and Middle-eastern dancer Iris Alroy; acoustic and electronic string composer and musician Daniel Berkman; Butoh dancers Stacy Cutter-Bolt, Alicia Farnsworth and Julia Williams, and robotic Butoh dancers Slave One and Slave Zero. Come shatter your shackles. \$10 door. 8:30pm. Also on Feb. 10 & 24. 550 Natoma St. (btwn 6th & 7th, Mission & Howard; entrance on Russ St.). Tix/info: 701-0686; [www.omnircircus.com](http://www.omnircircus.com)

### Dimensions, San Jose

Club Papi's 3rd Annual VIP Card Party, featuring a live performance by Captair Recording Artist Sharyn Maceren singing her hit songs "Hard to Get" and "One on One." Resident DJ Mike spins Spanish, Hip Hop, and House. Hot Latin go-go dancers. Everyone receives a free Papi VIP Card good for discount admissions to Club Papi, free admission to Bench & Bar's Latin Explosion before 11pm, free admission to Club Unique before 10pm. \$12 cover. 9pm-2am. 21+ w/ID. 369 S. First St., San Jose.



# Sun 28

## Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Chamber music series, part 1 of 3, highlighting the works of composers who were held as prisoners during the 1940s at Terezin (Theresienstadt), a concentration camp at which musical and artistic life flourished in the face of unimaginable deprivation and horrors. The concert features strong trios, including the haunting *Trio for Violin, Viola and Cello* by Gideon Klein, an extraordinary Czech pianist and composer. Featured performers include Randall Weiss, violinist and Assistant Concert-manager for the San Jose Symphony; Montclair Duo violist Patricia Whaley; Michael Corner, principal clarinetist, and Dan Levitan, principal harpist, with the San Jose Symphony. Wine and cheese reception follows. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a progressive Reform synagogue of LGBT and heterosexual Jews, together with lovers, family and friends, both Jewish and non-Jewish. \$10-\$25 sliding (\$5 seniors/disabled). 290 Dolores (at 16th St.). Info: CSZ Program Director Dahlia Gross at 575-4961.

## SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Mt. Diablo Upper Loop Hike and enjoy the early spring flowers as well as views from the Sierras to the Pacific. It's a fairly strenuous 6-8 mile hike with a 2,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:45am under the big Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

# Mon 29

## Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

QComedy.com presents the one-year anniversary "Gay Comedy Showcase" show, hosted by lesbian comedian Karen Ripley, featuring Regina Stoops, Gretchen rootes, Alicia Dattner and others. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Info: 541-5610.

## Green Room, War Memorial Performing Arts Center

The Chamber Music Partnership presents the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble in their second 2000-01 season concert, "Antonin Dvorak and Other Composers of Eastern Europe." Featuring Bela Bartok's *String Quartet No. 2*, György Kurtág's *Hommage à Mihály Andras* and 12 *Microludes for String Quartet*, Dusan Bogdanovic's *Over the Edge* (for violin, cello and guitar), and Dvorak's *Quintet for Strings in G major*. \$15 gen'l adm.; \$12 students/se-



Visual Aid presents an exhibition of new collages by David King, opening this Friday with a reception (5-7 p.m.) at The Gallery, 400 Castro St. (at Market St.).

niors. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 642-8054; www.chambermusicpartn.org

# Tue 30

## Projecto ContraSIDA Por Vida

"Culo Caliente! — A Journey to Your Anus," presented by PCPV and Club Eros. A sex-positive educational discussion about butt-play for men who have sex with men. Free. 7-9pm. 2940 16th St. (at Capp). Info: Sergio at 575-1643.

# Wed 31

## Theatre Rhinoceros

Continuing run: Eugene Ionesco's absurdist classic play *Rhinoceros*, directed by Colman Domingo, set in the Mission District of contemporary San Francisco. Bay Area actress Alexis Lexin stars in the traditionally male role of Beranger, a malcontented em-

ployee of a not-for-profit organization, whose life is turned upside down when the people around her start turning into Rhinoceroses. Theatre Rhino favorite P.A. Cooley stars as her friend Jean, a budding Rhino. \$20 Fri. & Sat; \$15 Wed., Thu., & Sun (matinees & evenings). Thru Feb. 10. Located at 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix: 861-5079.

# Thu

## Thick House

Preview: Encore Theatre Company in association with Black Sheep premieres *I Think I Like Girls*, written and directed by Leigh Fondakowski. Featuring Barbara Pitts, Amy Resnick, Kelli Simpkins, Megan Spooner and Lisa Steindler. A multimedia performance focusing on gender and growing up gay in America. Fondakowski shapes verbatim interviews of women across the US into an explosive theatrical event capturing the complexity of individuals struggling to express their

identity. Some associate this kind of theater with ethnography. Pay-what-you-can preview, also on Feb. 2 & 4; special benefit perf. Feb. 3 (\$50-\$100 sliding). Opens Feb. 5. \$20 Fri.-Sun; \$15 Thu. & Mon, thru Feb. 26. 8pm. 1695 18th St. (btwn Arkansas & deHarro). Tix/info: 401-8081.

## Metropolitan Community Church

"Resurrection Bingo 2001," in which the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc. kick off the 2011 bingo season with a gala "Sex Odyssey 2001" themed night of bingo. Featuring ten games with cash prizes up to \$250 per game; a chance at a high-tech door prize; and Sisterly antics. \$12 entry. 7pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: 552-0220; www.TheSisters.org

## SF Main Public Library

Town Hall Meeting: The SF Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force. All members of the intersex, gender variant, transsexual communities and the public invited. 5:30-7:30pm. Latino Community Rooms, SF Main Public Library, Civic Center. Info: Nathan Purkiss at 0 554-7734.

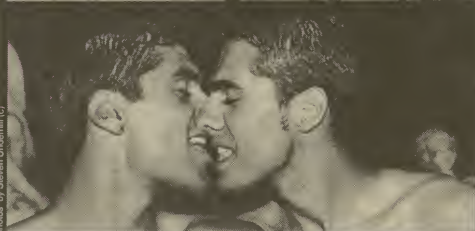
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Roisin Coven perform *Dream of the Scarab: A Beetle Bagatelle*, a Pagan Lounge Productions operetta of circus life and beetle survival at Venue 9. See Saturday.



# BAR TALK



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### PARTING GLANCES

**The Cafe, Sat Nov. 25**  
You: cute smile blue shirt, dark hair goatee, pool table upper bar. Me: blk hair, blk goatee dk red sweater w/stripes. Would like to see you again, call me. ☎ 72699

**Fifth & Sixth Fused**  
Maybe more in common. Three of us in your Miata from Power Exchange to my house. Wanted you to stay. ☎ 72700

**UC Berkeley Perimeter Bus 12/7/5p**  
Our stop Bart. Me: jeans, grey coat guy with friend in back. You: grey sweater, cargo pants guy. Our eyes met. You smiled as you left the bus and I smiled. ☎ 72701

**White Vespa Boy, One Year Ago**  
Eastbound on 18th, late afternoon 12/21/99. Me: leather jacket, Honda, spaced when you pulled over despite your sparkling fuck-me stare. Call if this isn't too bizarre (or bizarre enough). ☎ 72702

**Vincent-Thu 11/30 Daddys+Detour**  
We talked about movies and I enjoyed kissing you. Your are very cute. I would still like to watch "Less Than Zero", with you, maybe more kissing too! Pls call. Eric. ☎ 72703

**SFO Open House Lufthansa**  
You busy stamping passports. Me-with friend and not able to say hello. Too late to get my stamp? How about coffee or dinner? ☎ 72724

**David, Nurse, Live By Ocean Bch**  
We went out a few years ago. Saw you at Stacey's Books last month-wanted to say hi, but didn't know how to start; can we have coffee? Ken. ☎ 72725

**Just Back From New Zealand**  
11/27 we sat next to each other on the plane from LA to SF. Would like to talk to you again. ☎ 72726

**Leather Buddies-Wed. 12/27**  
You: Short Asian, medium build, black leather vest. Me: White, bare bottomed, slim & smooth - serviced you. Talked, but no phone # asked, let's meet elsewhere. ☎ 72763

**Eye Contact, "The Bar"**  
You Italian-Latin we made eye contact at, "The Bar", 12/9 said hi when I saw you walking on Castro w/my roommate. Dinner? ☎ 72727

**12/25 Evening Air-Bar-Embarcadero**  
We sat opposite each other. You-green army pants/Banana Republic sweatshirt. Me-black jeans/jacket. Noticed your growing bulge. Want to do something about it? Call! ☎ 72743

**Castro Starbucks 12/23**  
Me, black shirt, goatee, book; You, blue shirt, dark hair, book. My title: "Too shy to talk." Yours? Can we compare notes? ☎ 72744

**Thurs 12/21 18+ Church 3pm**  
You cute Latino. Me tall blonde Berkeley student. We tried but 3rd party interrupted. Let's try again. You call the shots... ☎ 72762

**New Years At Club Universe**  
Back room. You, cute boy in black. Me, feather mask, confetti thrower dancing with friend. Gave you string necklace and hug. Gotta have you! ☎ 72764

**Supershuttle To SFO, Fri 12/22**  
10:30am, we shared the seat behind the driver. You were going to NY. I was going to Chicago. A woman talked about disadvantaged kids in LA. Want to meet for coffee? ☎ 72765

**Sean- Saturday Night 12/30 Stud**  
We met outside Sugar and each thought we were familiar. I looked for you on the dance floor in hopes to continue our conversation. Any chance we still can? R. ☎ 72767

**"Jano," Sweet Good Boy, I Desire**  
Fluio, please talk Jano into calling again or call yourself & tell me he is safe & in love with someone else. Steve, bear, Dolores SFG. I am wounded by his kisses. ☎ 72785

**19th St. @ Sanchez- Dan (?)**  
You gave me the best massage. I need your home #. Pls call. Mark ☎ 72806

**Barnes & Noble 12/30**  
You- wearing backpack. I smiled at you a few times and all the way down the escalator. Want to meet for tea/coffee? ☎ 72766

**Gap, Flood Building 1/7/01**  
We talked at the check out. Gap.com-athletic socks- platinum amex- Cost-co. I've seen you before- I would enjoy knowing you more. Please call. ☎ 72786

**New Years Eve @ Midnight Sun**  
You: Michael, 37, cute, newly arrival from San Diego, living in San Mateo. Genuine smart ass! Me: the tall handsome, fun, debonaire guy you should have gone home with. Call. ☎ 72787

**"Anja," Mr NL & Indra, The Cafe Jan 2**  
The sexy cat/computer lady and Mister Gorgeous wanted by Swedish, ponytailed sailor, girlie. Unfortunately, I couldn't find my way back again... Do get in touch again! ☎ 72784

**Johnfrank Fri 1/12 10:30pm**  
Waiting for restroom. You: white shirt, good looking, nice smile, well build. Me: gray/black sweater, beard, short hair. Would like to continue where we left off. ☎ 72805

**Folsom Bookstore 1/9 7:45 pm**  
Me: black sweatshirt, army jacket. You: white shirt, beautiful vest, smile when you kiss. Your popper spilled. I blacked out. I'm humiliated, but need you in my bed. Second chance? ☎ 72807

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**"Rich Gold Gym Dude!"**  
You have come over to my apartment on Parker Avenue. Somehow, I didn't have chance to talk to you. I would like to meet you again. Please call. P.S. would you mind collecting my English? ☎ 72704

**Lonely? Looking For A Friend?**  
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. ☎ 72705

**SF 69er Sought**  
Me: GWM 49 5'9" lean athletic (runner, hiker) 6' cut HIV- bearded bald witty friendly enjoys quiet. Seeks: similar clean, low-key younger man for mutual oral sex. ☎ 72706

**Quality Asian-American, 34, 5'8"**  
Slim, gym-toned, independent, stable, down to earth. Interests include gardening, travel, reading, learning. Seeking friendship and possible ltr. Prefer 28-40. Race unimportant. Sincere only please. ☎ 72707

**Easturo Man Seeking Thai Man**  
In shape, 38 years, 5'8", about 164# Eastern European man seeking Thai man about my age (30-40). ☎ 72728

**Loved To Be Fucked**  
By Asian and Latino men on LTR. I'm 6'2", GWM 165lbs. You won't be disappointed. We can have sex many times in the future. Yours. ☎ 72729

**HIV+ Black Men Or Latino**  
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72730

**Hi, My Name Is Ralph J. Torres**  
I am looking for someone between 18-24 years old. I am a bi-male. I am a top looking for a bottom that love sex. ☎ 72731

**I Know You're Out There!**  
Handsome, healthy, HIV-, successful, 40-something, muscular guy, 5'10", 165lbs, who enjoys life with comic intensity. Looking for someone my age or younger for passionate relationship. ☎ 72732

**Stocky WM, 48 Seeks BM Within SF, Bay Area.** Professional home-loving guy with wide interests seeks same. HIV- 5'7", 220lbs. No substance abusers please. ☎ 72733

**Class Act 4 Same**  
GL professional, 50s, tall and shaved, bright, humorous and playful, enjoys cooking, theatre and the gauis, sexually versatile, seeks man of quality for dating and ltr. Life is to share. ☎ 72734

**Younger Poz Bottom Sought**  
Black male; 5'10", 185, 43, dark, smooth, muscular, masculine, 32" waist, 44" chest, 43, nice body, quiet, mature man, seeks muscular poz bottom, 35 and under, for intimacy, warmth, closeness. ☎ 72745

**Hot!, Hot!, In Antioch**  
I will close the curtains, light a couple of candles as you sit on the bed showing me your big dick. I will model around showing you my fine clean ass as we enjoy a cocktail, smoke, music. I am 38yr. old, horny Frenchman, handsome. You may be average but have a hot cock. ☎ 72746

**Hi My Name Is Ralph**  
I am looking for a girlfriend between 18-24. I am 40years old that love the Lord Jesus Christ in my life and, I have AIDS. ☎ 72747

**SR GWM Seeks M.O.C.**  
GWM in S.F. sincere fit bearded, 67, 5'9", 155# HIV neg. N/D ISO mature masculine Black, Latino, over 45 for erotic play, J/O. ☎ 72768

**Wanted: Cuddly SF Bear/Cub-GWM, 30-50, facial/body hair, versatile:** share adventures, art, architecture, massage with GWM, 42, 6'-3", hairy/beard, versatile, leather, professional. No smoke/drugs. ☎ 72769

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+37yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+ hot top for hot erotic safe sex. Me: br, hzl, 6'1", love br, br, 50's but not required. No games apply. ☎ 72770

**Diaper Boy ISO A Daddy**  
LTR minded, only please. I am 38yo 5'11", 195 brown hrz/eyes looking for a dad that is strict but loving heavy A+ diaper spanking fun. ☎ 72771

**Kabuki Theater 12/31 3:30pm**  
Me: Asian w/baseball cap says "Canada". You: White w/glasses @ balcony. You gave me big smiles. I was way too shy to respond to you. Wish to meet you. ☎ 72772

**Santa Rosa Area Or SF On Wknds**  
Seeking other hardbodies. I'm 47 handsome, smooth 39" C, 29" w, w/ abs 5'9", 145#, sincere spiritual, strong, & loving, enjoy hot tub, massage & hot sex. ☎ 72773

**Dominant Masculine WM**  
Goodlooking man with hard bod, 5-10, 165, 40ish professional seeks young, HIV- cleancut, 18-39 sub-boys for fun, possible LTR. ☎ 72774

**"I'm A Great Catch!!!"**  
WM, late thirties, brown hair, blue/green eyes 6'1", 185lbs, clean-shaven, gym going, academic, HIV-, nice, warm, stable, communicative, non-superficial, engaging, humorous. You: 25-45, college educated, professional, dark hair and eyes. ☎ 72788

**Best Buds**  
Masculine Italian toman ISO another masculine buddy to "hang" with. Drinks, dinner, movies, clubs, travel (vacations) etc. Looks, age, race, top or bottom not important. Masculine men only!! ☎ 72789

**Live In Relationship E. Bay**  
58yr. old Germanic with large swantz and house seeks companionship in kitchen and bedroom. Be HIV+, healthy, bottom with talent on the computer and a warm casserole. ☎ 72790

**Gentle Soul Seeks Same**  
GWM, 44, balanced, honest, communicative, playful, contemplative, settled yet adventuresome, enjoy film, reading, travel, gardening. Prefer N/S, N/D, light drinker, HIV-neg. Want sensual, romantic type for dating. LTR oriented. ☎ 72791

**Looking For Companionship**  
Gay Asian 65yrs 5-9 150lb need close contact with trim, goodlooking man under 40 for friendship, travel conversation and love. ☎ 72792

**Seeking Tall Husky Hairy Top**  
You: Over 6' husky to stocky, hairy a plus. Me: balding salt & pepper, 5'9", avg build, 40's seeking versatile play partner. ☎ 72793

**Erotic Liaison.**  
Sexy mature man seeks bossy, aggressive man, any age. We do what ever you say. Otherwise sociable & equal. ☎ 72808

**Handsome Animal/Plant Lover**  
Kind, gentle, sensitive, strong, masculine, easy-going, playful, self-aware. Passion for nature, kissing, cuddling, sucking, home life. Seek same who is a homeowner. I'm 48, youthful athletic, 6'2", 190lbs. Very good looking, shave head, moustache. ☎ 72809

**Middle Age Black Gentleman**  
Seeks middle age Hispanic gentleman. I'm sincere, honest, discreet and have much to share. Big plus if you are husky and have dark hair, skin and moustache. ☎ 72810

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐  
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Seeking Adventure ☐  
Lesbian ☐  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
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## SEEKING ADVENTURE

### Bottom Need's F.F.

Ball's need S/M, be tormented, ass needs spanking and exploring. I am clean HIV- bi WM 5'2", 120 shaved, and a experienced cocksucker, stay over nite. Sacramento, aroma/herbs L/A ok. ☎ 727008

**Sexy Older (54-67) For Cute 28**  
East Bay, athletic, slim, trim, 6', 160# with satin smooth skin and bubble buns youngest 28 seeks naughty older men. Younger Latinos welcome. ☎ 72709

### Into Rimming?

Have a lover, seeking a rimming buddy for mutual ass eating. Me: GWM, 53yrs, 5'8", 175#. You: GWM and discreet. Clean, no scat, your place in SF only. HIV+. ☎ 72710

### A Rubbery Adventure

Attractive blonde, mid 40's, HIV positive, seeks similar W/male to explore the rubber scene. I've got lots of leather and rubber gear. You should too. East Bay/S.F. ☎ 72711

### Dry Face Needs Hot Cum Bath

Muscular WM 58 seeking senior citizens. Let me get between your legs and jerk off your cock directing your cum all over my face. ☎ 72712

### I'm Lost In Orlando!

Formerly known as "Pete" in the window on Sanchez Street, I have relocated to Orlando. If you're planning to visit, leave me a message. I'll give you what you need! ☎ 72713

### Dominant Male, 39 Seeking

Part time house slave. Must be detail oriented & eager to please. Age & looks not important. ☎ 72714

### Big, Husky, Chubby, Fat

GBM, 47yo, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung seeks big, fat, & chubby men for uninhibited sex. You must be my size or bigger. Discretion a must. ☎ 72715

### Big Dick Top Seeks Hot Bottom

GWM, 45, 6'3", 185 lb, grn with big fat dick looking for cute guys who like a big cock up their butt. ☎ 72716

### Have You Read...

Conjuring The Flesh or Apprenticed To Pleasure by Brandon Fox, "cool scene", brn's 12 Group of images forming. Learn to touch the feel by understanding pleasure. Initiates wanted, call Ander to meet. ☎ 72748

**Handsome Slim Dad, 54, Holds U**  
And caresses you. You blow me, I put it in you if you want it. Masturbate you & kiss you. Young, slim only. ☎ 72717

### Flood Bldg Buddy Wanted

Professional GWM, working in Flood Building, is looking for a building buddy for AM coffee, drinks after work, sex over lunch (not necessarily in that order). ☎ 72718

### Kick Back And Enjoy

Free erotic massage and/or oral service by muscular, handsome, long-haired GWM. Trim or in shape a must, longhair or alternative types A+. I'm a nice guy. UB2. ☎ 72735

### I Like Sensual Bondage

Lean, athletic, friendly guy, 45, seeks partner for sensual bondage, flogging, role playing. Reciprocity if desired. ☎ 72736

**Athletic, Masculine, Witty, Asian, 53, 5'8", 155,** seeks similar clean-shaven, lean/muscular, in-shape WM for adventurous companion and fun times. ☎ 72738

### Attractive, Smooth, Athletic Asian

Guy wants to receive long firm, erotic, full body, head to toe oil massages from experienced or licensed masseurs. I enjoy having my chest, butt, legs, cock, balls, etc. massaged. I also enjoy bondage; having my hands and feet tied up while massaged, etc. ☎ 72740

### East Bay

Appreciative, mature Academic male seeks Gay, Straight, BI, exhibitionist or curious, 25-50 for private encounters at his home. ☎ 72749

### Mine's Big

Looking for someone who can take it. Looking for someone who can handle it. Looking for someone who can go all night long. Search me, 24/7. Ragging. ☎ 72750

### Oakland Guy

36, shaved cock and balls, HIV+, seeks other positive guys for mutual oral and J/O. Prefer cut cocks and shaved. Let's have some fun. ☎ 72751

**Seeking A Very Well Hung Stud**  
Nice-looking White bottom, seeking nice looking White or Latino top 18-40 with nice looking body, huge thick dick to get together to fuck my tight hot asshole good. ☎ 72756

### Great Downtown Head

GWM 50, not gym toned, gives excellent head to hung men over 30' any age, race. I am 6', 180lbs, brn, handsome and love oral sex. ☎ 72753

### I Need A Slow Hand

Boysish Asian seeks the strong hands of a smooth gym toned GM or AM to massage my full body. Enjoy hot tubing too. ☎ 72754

### Naked On Your Knees

Are you masculine and submissive with a tight trim body from 20 to 44? Would you like to take orders for some role playing fun with a trim dominant WM 43? ☎ 72755

### Hot Bottoms Wanted

By White top 56yrs old 6' 160lbs. brn/bm glasses big 9" cut cock wants to fuck young bottoms ages 18-39. Be hot & smooth bodied. ☎ 72757

### FF Top Want FF Bottom

SWM 50's HIV- looking for FFB GWM HIV- for pleasure and fun-aroma-herb ok. ☎ 72737

### Tit Play Zaps My Dick & Brains

Yours? Let's do each other's easy and rough till totally crazed. Musts: hairy, inshape, 40+, tall, GWM, SF. ☎ 72760

### Mature Masculine Submissive

Seeks dominant top 40+ for erotic BD/SM play. Sub is intelligent, experienced, imaginative. ☎ 72752

### I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 200lbs 42

GWM seeks very hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. ☎ 72761

### Hairless Bubblebutt Bottom

Wanted by WM 48, 6' 175 gsm toned with nice dick & ass top HIV+. Be in shape. I am Asian, Black rimers A+++. ☎ 72775

### Palo Alto Asian Male 44 5'11"

190 blk-brn likes to suck cock that doesn't get rock hard for me to deep throat. Prefer Penisula area and between 3pm to 10pm your place. ☎ 72776

### South Bay

58, 1k younger, 6' 212, shavedhead & body, uninhibited, sub. bottom seeks dom. top(s) to play with, 50-70, cauc, sincere, exper. your place. ☎ 72777

### Straight

Looking for hot straight cocks to suck on by two deep-throat experts. Good-looking and Latinos are a plus. ☎ 72778

### HelpMeFromThisTorturesExdesire

Oversized x-tra smooth GAM 37, 220, 5' 8" seeks open minded men 18-45 for ongoing sex action only. Your place weekdays. Discretion guaranteed. No drugs. Serious only. ☎ 72779

**Hairy Blond Or Red Head Bottom**  
Is what I'm looking for. I'm 38 6' 200# A hairy Italian with 8 inches. Call if you're hairy and into anal action. ☎ 72794

### Filipino Top Wanted

GBM 40 is seeking a Filipino top for fun. Any age, looks not important. (Please call). ☎ 72795

### 2001 Is For Great Sex! ISO Top

For serious oral servicing, I'm 48, S&P, hairy chest, tall and lean with long-distance love. UB clean, in-shape lake control guy up for some discrete fun. ☎ 72759

### GWM Ass For Asian Cock To Fuck

Need Asian tops to fuck my asshole while I'm on my belly. Me: Caucasian, mature, hairy, stocky, big ass. You: slender, smooth, HIV- Asian man who likes to fuck ass. ☎ 72796

### Ties And Toes All 60'sers

I have a heart for all that blows. I'm a 5'6" bottom and like all. Please give it to me. ☎ 72758

### Bi Black Man

I am 46 year old, non smoker or drug. I need someone, any race with big 8+ mm for long tr. ☎ 72739

### Oral Service

GWM, 45 br/bl, g'tee, 5'8", 160, healthy loves to give oral service to guys my age or older. Muscular, hairy A+. Oakland/ SF. ☎ 72798

### Sonoma County Resident

45yrs old Latino gay male. I love nice hard dick to suck, fuck. I have nice hot, wet ass for you. ☎ 72799

### Handsome Top Seeks Bottoms

Hey guys, I am blond, 38, hung 8 inches uncut, in-shape, 5'8", 160 and fun. You are in-shape, bottom and very friendly. Let's play now. ☎ 72800

### So Far Still Straight But....?

38yr old Italian Irish 5'8", 165lbs, 31"waist 7"x5"cut huge, head shaved balls and ass, bikini tan line, masculine, good looking seeks hung Black cocks and ass. ☎ 72811

### I Love My Dad/ 5'9" 190lbs 42

GWM seeks very hairy daddy-types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. ☎ 72812

### Skinhead Muscibear Wrassler

Hairy goated skinhead wrassler bear ISO romper brawlin' bears and stomper agro skins into NHB wrassler and fightin' for top bareassed in boots, leather, sun, military kit; belts; chains. ☎ 72813

### Young European Boy

This very cute submissive boy from Europe is ready to be trained by you or your friends in their 20's or 30's only. Total obedience is guaranteed. ☎ 72797

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### GAM Seeks GAF For Support

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## FETISHES

### Hungry Fist Seek Pig Hole

29yo. fit seeks exp. bottoms into heavy duty punch fucking. Let's turn your hole into a loose sloppy wet mess and make those lips sag and rosebud bloom. ☎ 72719

### Turtleneck Sweaters

Winter's almost here and it's my time of year. Nothing gets me off more than guys with facial hair in ribbed turtlenecks. Looking for others who share this fetish. ☎ 72721

### Asshole Rimmer Wanted By WM

47, 6', 170 eck shape HIV+. You must be bottom. Prefer Black, Asian HIV+. ☎ 72722

### Spanking/Discipline

I am a strict, non-sensate dad type who administers real discipline/punishment welcome. Must meet at your place. ☎ 72741

### New Year Wish List

WM seeks senior citizen with senior friends who can put together a J/O party with my face on receiving end of shot after shot of hot cum. ☎ 72742

### Seeking Serious Workout Buddy

I'm a 46yr old stocky 190# serious nip-plg with huge erect nipples. Brn/bm, salt & pepper, tats & piercings, smoker ISO super masc. muscular dominant nip pig "daddy" for serious wk outs with growth in mind: Please call- smoker + + +. ☎ 72780

### Ski Mask Bandit

White punk, 28, wears ski masks, derby jackets, swallows big cocks. Cholos, blue collars, kinky tops, boot stompers only. ☎ 72781

### Big Bro With Firm Hand

Me: 36yo big bro type, 5'11", 185, warm, honest, skilled. You: 18-40 yo in reasonable shape who needs to be spanked. Genuine, no-nonsense discipline to erotic play. ☎ 72782

### Favorite Uncle Seeks Butt

Energetic favorite uncle type seeks masculine nephews 20-40 with munchable muscle butts. Pure hot pleasure by a pro. ☎ 72783

### Seeking Serious Nipple WkOut Buddy

46yr old stocky 190# bear brn, nip-plg with huge erect nips. Brn/bm, tats, piercings, salt & pepper goatee, smoker. ISO super masc. dominant nip-plg "bear daddy" for serious nip wkout sessions with growth in mind. Smoker A++ Please call. ☎ 72802

### Mutual Spanking...

Hard, bare-hand slapping & strapping partner wanted. 50's man 5-7, 165. We leave marks. ☎ 72720

### Thirsty Throat And Rimmer

46yr old stocky 190# bear brn, nip-plg with huge erect nips. Brn/bm, tats, piercings, salt & pepper goatee, smoker. ISO super masc. dominant nip-plg "bear daddy" for serious nip wkout sessions with growth in mind. Smoker A++ Please call. ☎ 72802

### Can You Provide?

GWM 40, 175, 6'1", VGL ISO young ranch top to use & abuse me. Verbal & uncut A+. Into sweat, snut, cum, WS, & a ripe hole to worship. River location. ☎ 72723

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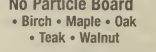
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# Melodramas by a master

## Tennessee Williams out on video

by Tavo Amador

Hollywood's relationship with Tennessee Williams has been intense and generally profitable. He provided more Oscar-winning roles than any other writer, but censorship plagued many films based on his works. Nonetheless, the power of his best plays survives. Following is a partial guide to his works on video.

**A Streetcar Named Desire:** Despite censorship eliminating references to homosexuality, Elia Kazan's 1951 film is still the best version of the clash between Blanche Du Bois and Stanley Kowalski. Vivien Leigh and Marlon Brando give two of the greatest performances in movie history. Oscars for Leigh, and for the supporting roles of Stella and Mitch, Kim Hunter and Karl Malden. A television version, with Ann-Margaret and Treat Williams, is also good, but not available. The 1998 San Francisco Opera-commissioned work by Andre Previn, with Renee Fleming and Rodney Gilfrey, is out on video; the music doesn't interfere with the drama.

**The Rose Tattoo:** Williams wrote the part of Serafina for his friend Anna Magnani, but Maureen Stapleton created the role on stage. The 1955 film stresses the melodrama rather than the earthy comedy, as Magnani's widow is reawakened sexually by hunky but

dumb Burt Lancaster. Pier Angeli is her sweet daughter, also discovering the joys of love and sex. Magnani won the Best Actress Oscar for her volcanic, over-the-top performance.

**Suddenly Last Summer:** Joseph L. Mankiewicz's 1959 film, with Katharine Hepburn trying to have Elizabeth Taylor lobotomized so that she will not tell the truth about her dead son, Sebastian, is a knockout. Both divas are superb. A later television version, with Maggie Smith and Natasha Richardson, is slow and talky.

**The Fugitive Kind:** Sidney Lumet's 1959 reworking of Williams' unsuccessful 1941 play *Battle of Angels* stars Anna Magnani as Lady Torrence, whose dormant sexual and romantic desires are awakened by the arrival of guitar-strumming Val Xavier (Marlon Brando) to a small Southern town. Magnani's volcanic passions are fascinating, even if she is a bit too old for the part. Brando's Val is equally compelling, but the movie, like the play, is flawed. Joanne Woodward plays a wild, rich girl, an underwritten character whom she cannot make believable. In 1990, Peter Hall directed Vanessa Redgrave in an acclaimed London production of the play, retitled *Orpheus Descending*. It's available on video, but she is miscast, and it's hard to understand why the production was so lavishly praised.

**The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone:** Williams' 1950 novella did

not reach the screen until 1961, and became his personal favorite of films based on his work. Vivien Leigh is magnificent as the widowed actress Karen Stone, drifting in Rome, afraid of loneliness and of aging, unwilling to believe she must pay for love, then succumbing to the expensive charms of Warren Beatty's beautiful gigolo. Lotte Lenya is sensational as a contessa/procurress. Beautifully directed by Jose Quintero, from a screenplay by Gavin Lambert. Shot on location in the Eternal City.

**Summer and Smoke:** Geraldine Page repeats her stage success as Alma, the desperate-to-find-love daughter of a minister, in this 1962 film. Laurence Harvey's mis-casting as the doctor whom she desires but doesn't get nearly ruins the movie. Still, very atmospheric.

**Sweet Bird of Youth:** Paul Newman and Geraldine Page repeated their Broadway triumphs as Chance Wayne, gigolo, and Alexandra del Lago, fading star, in this wonderfully overheated 1962 film directed by Richard Brooks. Page dazzles, funny and touching all at once. Newman's aging hustler has a fine, desperate edge. Ed Begley is great in his Oscar-winning role as Boss Finley, and Shirley Knight is exquisite as his daughter, Heavenly. A disappointing 1989 television version, with Elizabeth Taylor and Mark Harmon, directed by Nicholas Roeg, is also available.

**Night of the Iguana:**

Williams' last Broadway success was given an excellent treatment by director John Huston in this 1962 movie. Richard Burton is moving as the defrocked priest Shannon, hiding out in Ava Gardner's Puerto Vallarta hotel. She's good as the earthy Maxine, but the acting honors belong to Deborah Kerr's Hannah, a haunting performance as a virgin who understands love and desire. Sue Lyon is poor as the nymphet tempting Burton, but Grayson Hall, as Miss Fellowes, the butch tour-group leader, is very funny.

**Cat on a Hot Tin Roof:** The melodrama about a husband coming to grips with his real feelings for his dead buddy, his father's imminent death, and his wife's determination to save their marriage, was filmed in 1958 by Richard Brooks. Censorship eliminated direct references to homosexuality, which hurts the story. More than compensating for this are Elizabeth Taylor's stunning Maggie, Paul Newman's smoldering Brick, and Burl Ives' towering Big Daddy. The rewritten third act is powerful on its own terms. Judith Anderson, Madeline Sherwood, and Jack Carson give brilliant supporting performances. A 1984 television version, with Jessica Lange and Tommy Lee Jones, is faithful to the original, but slow. Laurence Olivier starred as Big Daddy and directed Natalie Wood

From *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

and Robert Wagner in an inept television version as well.

**The Glass Menagerie:** Williams' most poetic and autobiographical work, a paean to his beloved sister Rose, was his first success, but has not fared well on film. The drama centers on the narrator, Tom, forced by his mother, Amanda, to bring home a gentleman caller for his lame, shy sister, Laura. Paul Newman directed Joanne Woodward, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Naughton in a faithful version of the play, released in 1987. Unfortunately, Woodward's Amanda resembles Vicki Lawrence in "Momma's Family" on *The Carol Burnett Show*, and misses the character's pathos. The dreadful 1950 film with Gertrude Lawrence's ghastly Amanda, Jane Wyman, and Kirk Douglas featured a tacked-on "happy ending"; it and a later television version with a miscast Katharine Hepburn are not, apparently, available on video. ▼

## Tennessee

◀ Arts cover

voritism shown his younger brother, Dakin.

Williams' complex relationship with his mother Edwina is revealed through the letters. Although she accused him of being "selfish" by indulging himself in writing, her pride when his efforts were first recognized by a literary prize of \$100 (even if he had to lie about his true age to win it) was enormous. She was the model for Amanda in *Menagerie*, and Williams gave her the royalties earned by the drama for her lifetime. After Shakespeare's works, it is the most produced play in history, having been continually performed somewhere in the world since its New York premiere.

### Sound agent

The letters chronicle Williams' integrity and independence, such as his refusal to immediately accept Audrey Wood as his literary agent, a response she found amusing. He finally signed with her, and her unflagging devotion, clear editorial eye, and sound common sense proved invaluable to his success. Their acrimonious parting, many years down the road, is one of the more regrettable incidents of his later life.

It is amusing to read his dismay in a 1940 letter that the prestigious Theatre Guild wanted Joan Crawford to star in his *Battle of Angels*. Williams lamented her lack of stage experience, calling her a "terrible ham," and reacted with witty gratitude when she rejected the play as "low and common." He was delighted, however, that Miriam Hopkins agreed to star in the ill-fated production. His resiliency after its Boston failure is illuminating. It eventually was filmed in 1959, retitled *The Fugitive Kind*, with Anna Magnani, Marlon Brando, and Joanne Woodward.

The play, now christened *Orpheus Descending*, was successfully revived in New York and London several years ago by Vanessa Redgrave.

The letters outlining his joy when Wood landed him a contract to write for MGM (he welcomed the steady paycheck) and his concerns upon being asked to whip up something for Lana Turner are revealing. He wrote to Wood in 1943, "I think it is one of the funniest but most embarrassing things that ever happened to me, that I should be expected to produce a suitable vehicle for this actress. Poor thing, she is now having a baby and at the same time, her new picture is supposed to be written by me! As misfortune usually comes in pairs, if not triplets, this coming child of hers seems likely to be a monster." (Turner's daughter, lesbian Cheryl Crane, was no "monster," but she did have a troubled youth, murdering her mother's lover, gangster Johnny Stompanato, in 1957.) He ultimately had no input in the Turner vehicle, *Marriage Is a Private Affair* (1944). Equally fascinating are his accounts of the fabled Laurette Taylor's initial difficulties playing Amanda in *Menagerie*, and how she eventually created theatre history with her legendary performance.

Although Williams did not come out until he was 27, his acceptance of his homosexuality reveals his fundamental respect for the truth. The letters show his transformation from "Tom" to "Tennessee," an illuminating evolution. A second volume, covering the years he rode a streetcar named success, and the decline of his fortunes in the late '60s and '70s, is expected in two years. It is eagerly anticipated and may coincide with the promised publication of Leverich's unfinished second volume of his biography, reportedly being completed by John Lahr. ▼

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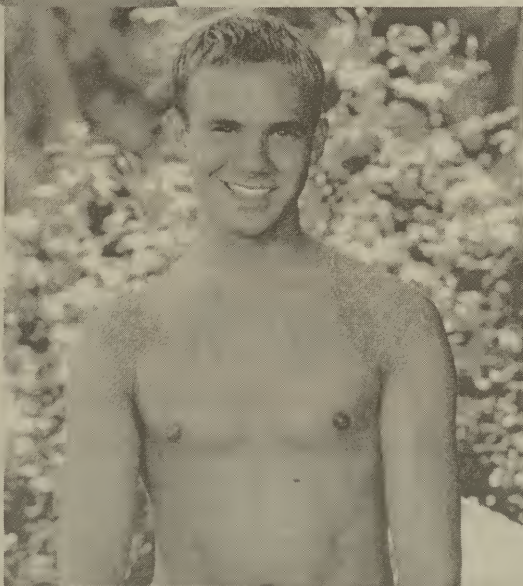
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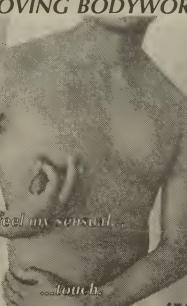
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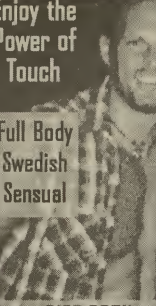


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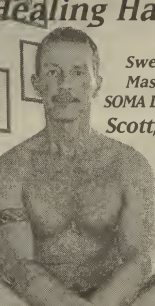


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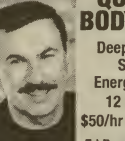


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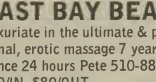


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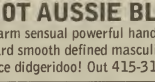
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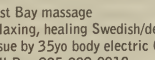
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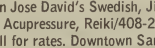
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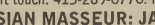
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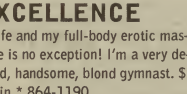
Soft touch. 415-289-6776. In/out  
**ASIAN MASSEUR: JAY** E04



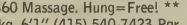
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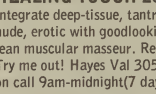
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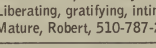
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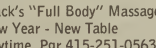
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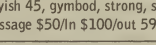
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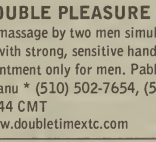
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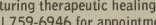
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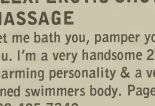
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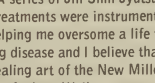
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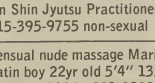
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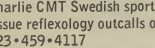
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Ex-Navy, 35yo, 5'11", 185#, 8x6.5 c,  
spanking, S&M, B&D, TT, FF.  
Credit cards accepted. In only.  
Red 415-290-0979

**23YO SAN JOSE  
MIDWESTERN FRAT BOY!**  
6'2", 175, cute, smooth, runners  
build, awesome endowment, red  
bush. In/out EscortInSJ@aol.com  
or 408-348-4425. Justin!

**BIKER TOP, ITALIAN**  
43, 6'3", 225lbs, muscular, inked,  
thick stache & tool 13ee feet  
Bruno 415-596-6235

**BEAR MEN**  
Furry men of all sizes wanted for  
XXX videos. Beards a plus. Fun at-  
mosphere 510-215-1517

Buzzcut 45, gymbody, tats, sensual  
Into most scenes in/out 596 3377

Frat Boy Hunk  
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass.  
5'9", 155#, 30"w, 8" 739-7312

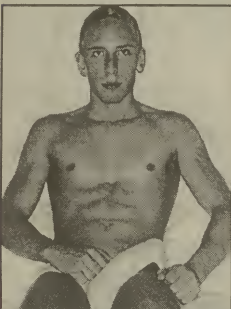
**HAIRY N' HORNY**  
6', 165, 40, tats/go-t, hung, nice  
bubble butt, top/vers. Kink to  
romance. BB, WS, etc. Your way!  
Dallas 572-6906



## MODEL/ESCORTS

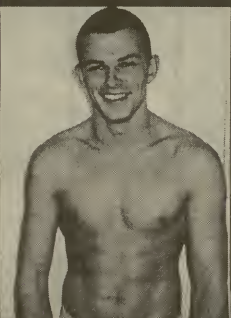
## S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned  
master into all aspects &  
degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959



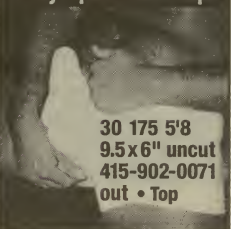
Blond 5'10", 150 lbs  
Out Only  
415-414-3263 pgr

## TWENTY YEARS OLD



Page: Josh 415-414-3263

## Horny Spanish Scorpio



30 175 5'8  
9.5x6" uncult  
415-902-0071  
out • Top

## MASSAGE/ESCORT

I'LL MAKE YOU  
FEEL GOOD!!

Pager  
415-201-0579

IN/OUT

## BAY AREA REPORTER

10' X 6" CUT 6' 6" 220 BR/BL 45YO  
XTRA HUNG DAD

All scenes -kink- 24 hrs 255-8093  
SM, BD, verbal, role playing.

## MANPLAY NOW

6', 190#, hung, hairy 46" chest,  
34yo mild to extreme top/versatile  
TT, S/M, B/D, CBT, FF-sling  
RAY (415) 672-3007

## WILD MAN!!

Sexy, nice body, athletic, open-mind-  
ed, 24 hrs. In/out 415 208-8099

Butt massage w/toys. Fullbody  
pleasure by boyish CMT 596-3377

BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area  
Ted\*(415) 459-3488

## PETER



Tall Thin Boy  
HUGE Meat  
577-6685

HORSE HUNG  
FARMBOY

6'3 Butch Top In/Out  
STEVE (415) 313-4041



"Heaven"  
(415) 775-4771

6' 225# very handsome bald guy w/

## THICK MUSCLES

Great thighs/calves & big manly  
muscle butt. Awesome hairy chest  
36" waist 18" arms. (415) 902-0748

## LEATHER/SM/FANTASY

40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncult, flattop  
Gd/king into bondage, s/m, w/s,  
f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots.  
Beginner? Have space & equip.  
Scott(415)414-1132Pg# In or Out

Hardcore school boy, educated,  
creative, not shy, open-minded, very  
cute! In/out travel Hotels & overnight  
stays call 24hrs 208-8099

## STATUE OF DAVID

Sculpted smooth 6'/185# Blond  
Adonis. Hot, cleancut, classical looks.  
Loves ass worship. In/Out 310-2930

## SEXY LATINO

Eduardo 415 406 7341 out only

## CUTE FACE DIRTY MIND

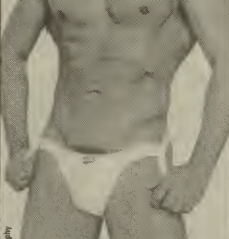
Hot 25 165# 5'10" verse/bottom  
Kyle 376-6396

## SAN JOSE BOY

25, 5'11", 165#, blonde, 120/hr  
Pager/voice: 408-882-8669  
www.SJBoy.com

## FOR ASIAN MEN

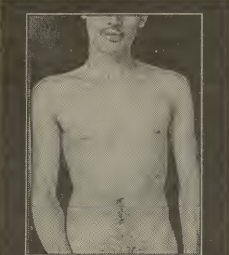
Good Looking German masseur 24,  
CMT, gives Swedish/deep tissue  
using table/hot oil 24/7. Jason  
415-929-9224

FRANCO  
HOT & SEXY

841.8476  
HOTLATINOESCORT.COM

## FETISH, ANYONE?

Are you a man with a unique imagination?  
Special cravings? Enjoy erotic  
adventure tailored to your special kink.  
Mid to edge. Private playroom.  
Call LEATHERMASTER  
436-9379



22'5'6" 120 Eurazn Btm 415.519.7546  
GEOCITIES.COM/PINOYNSF

## THICK DICK

## I NEED EXTRA \$\$\$

GWM, Blue eyes, brown hair, 30y.o.,  
5'10, 175#, Proportionate, not per-  
fect, Out only.

email: Clipper93@hotmail.com

## 20YO BLONDE

6ft 165 Smooth  
Gym built and beautifully hung  
Matt pgr: 560-7456

## HORNY &amp; READY

Hot blond boy with tight bod, great  
smile and attitude. Available for dis-  
creet sessions, mild or wild, uninhib-  
ited, open-minded, showoff, out calls &  
hotels 24hrs. Barrie 245-7616

9 1/2x 7 1/2" top-2 versatile- Clint  
GWM 40 gym toned, smooth, tan, cut  
hot butt. Lots of time. 864 2974

## "MENSFITNESS" MODEL

Model with Click-NY known for  
Gillette Sensor Razor Blades  
TV spots. 6'3", 200lbs. Very  
well endowed (9.5x7), smooth  
34years, sexually open 24hours  
(415) 717-2694

1 Black hard workover 415 219 2653

9" uncult, firm butt, 150lbs, 6'1"  
versatile. Phone 415-420-2581

It's time for some 1 on 1 with  
the coach. 415/565-0546.

Sexy blond jock with w/shbrd abs &  
Incredible pecs. 5'9", 165, 8-1/2" c.  
Tanned, masculine, & very  
handsome \$100/120.  
JASON 864-1190

## HOT BOTTOM SLAVE

Live to service Men!  
Discreet & Passionate In/Out  
Dean 415-307-9123

## NEW AD

## HOT HUNG AUSTRALIAN

Visiting SF for a short time  
call Rob 24/7 for blonde blue  
masculine man 415 377 2377

Handsome masculine hung dude

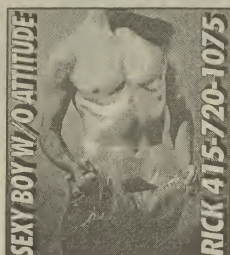
## KICKS BACK FOR YOU

5'11" 175 br/gr 30's 8" days ok  
Soma- Randy 864-7811 \$75/ln

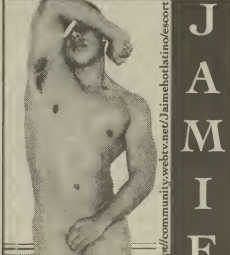
## Pro Rican



Top 377-1846



SEXY BOY W/O ATTITUDE  
RICK 415-720-1075



HOT MUSCULAR LATIN BOY  
PAGER 245-8679

35, 6'2", 215# MUSCLE TOP

HANDSOME/HORNY/HAIRY/HUNG

## \*YNG MSCL DAD\*

Xtremely good-looking. German-  
Ancestry. Blond/buzzd w/goatee  
yngmscladdy@aol.com 336-0444

## MUSCLE BOTTOM

## SERVING YOUR NEEDS.

Extremely handsome, green eyed,  
dark haired, 35yr. old Greek.  
Amazing rock hard body. 5'9", 175#  
44" c, 30" w, 16" arms, Furry chest.  
Hard, tight, butt than can handle  
whatever you're packin. Kick back  
service for xtra hung. Please, serious  
only. Peter 595-3643 \$175

Butt massage w/toys. Fullbody  
pleasure by boyish CMT 596-3377

## HOT NUDE

## SERVING VALLEJO E. BAY

6'2" 200# Italian 35 yrs old  
Well hung. Gives erotic, sensual  
massage in the nude. Ph Anthony  
at (707) 648-8808

## FORCEFUL PLOWING

Byhot hung top pg 888 215 2268

R U tired of calling up ads &  
these guys r nothing they claim

2 B? If so then pay att. to this:

100%REAL! NO BULLSHIT

OR DON'T PAY 5'10" 160,

9.5X7 ROUND CUT

Toned fit body, tan! See my review @  
www.male4maleescorts.com. I'm 24hrs.  
I am fun, adventuresome, outgoing, &  
yes, I have class 510 219 9028 Shane

## WANT IT ROUGH?

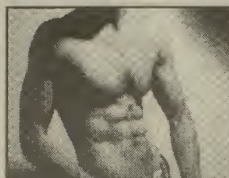
Lean smooth leather top, 32,  
gives it like you need it. Sling  
FF/SM/BD/WS/TT, slave training  
PAGE JACK 790-3312

## NEW AD

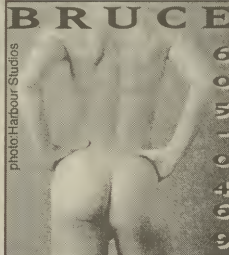
Very hot masculine top in SF  
for a short time call Rob 24/7  
415 377 2377

## GREAT ENERGY

Sexy str8 & very attractive  
5'9", 180lbs muscular & fit  
blond, blue & gorgeous!  
Mike 415-995-7550



MAN NEXT DOOR  
Muscular 37 6'4" 200#  
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry  
Hung \$100 SEAN 280-5062



BRUCE



outcalls sf bay area  
email: TomBuStoneXXX@aol.com

Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160

## CHOKO ON THIS!

Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs  
all top masc dominant real 10x7  
gentle strength & arousing edge  
intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla  
outcalls/hottubs/travl Bay Area  
415-256-6743 TomBuStonexxx@aol.com

## HORNY HARD &amp; HUNG

Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35yo  
masculine, muscular 6' 190# stud.  
Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerful legs  
& butt. Hard 8x6c. 207-9045

Verbal oral top kicks back/service

## 10'X6"\*\*\*UNCULT\*\*

Role play \*830-7745\* out only\* 24hrs\*

6'4" 245LB

## TOM OF FINLAND COLT

## MODEL TYPE HUNG 9

## CUT-N-THICK

Extremely good looking masculine  
hard define verbal top into  
domination discipline bodyworship  
watersports degradation fantasies  
all top scenes 24hr safe discreet  
Rick 415 210 2596

## HOT ATHLETIC

## SJ JOCK

408-619-7057

## RENTDEREK.COM

## WWW.ESCORTS4YOU.COM

GBM 9.5x6uc 415.253.8080 \$200

## KINKY BLACKTOP

Hot, hung and ready. Private and discre-  
et Tony (510) 336-1999

## ALL AMERICAN MUSCLE

28, 5'11", 215, rock solid,  
48" c, 32" w, 17" a, bubble butt,  
hard, tool, educated, friendly,  
100% real. Contact for appt.  
musclequests@yahoo.com Out.

## PARTY GUY "9"

(415) 775-4771 24-hours

## I LOVE OLDER MEN

Hot 27yo w/swimmers build hairy  
chest. 6'1", 185. I have a hot ass, but  
you'll love my mouth. Page Alex at  
(888) 234-4425.

## BOTTOMS UP!

## \*\*\*JOSE 637-4270\*\*\*

In or Out, Evs & Wknds 150wt. 5'7"ht.



## PERSONALS

## MODEL/ESCORTS

**CHAD**

6'4" 235 lbs  
Hung 9" & Cut

• 24 HOURS  
• MASCULINE  
• AGGRESSIVE  
• VERBAL  
• DOMINANT  
• MOST SCENES  
• STRICTLY TOP  
• SAFE/DISCRE

415-210-2573

**Rich**

Handsome & Sexy Butch  
5'9" • 185# • Uncut • Tats  
Top • FF • WS  
24hr. • 219-5034

**ONE TRUE STUD**

**GERALD**

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE  
MUSCLE WORK-  
SHIP \$200  
AND UP  
OUT ONLY  
310-414-STUD

**Dominant Leatherman**  
Bondage, SM, WS, CBT, F/F, Fetish, Slave Training

41yo, 6'1", 195#, Brown Hair, flat top, Blue Eyes, mustache, 7" Uncut.

**Beginners Welcome**  
Have equipment and playspace.  
**Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out**  
<http://209.133.75.78/scott/index.html>

**EUROPEAN MUSCLE NYC**

In San Francisco January 25th - 30th only!  
Bodybuilder-Escort, 32y/o, 6'4", 259lbs,  
53" chest, 34" waist, 19" arms,  
big hard drive, small download space.  
100% versatile

cel: 917-749-4634

In town now  
through Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>  
only!!!  
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**WWW.HUNGANTONIO.COM**  
**ANTONIO VEGA**  
NEW FALCON MODEL 1/25 - 2/17

30yo  
6", 185#  
9x6 Un/top  
In/Out

MOST SCENES: MILD TO WILD, KINK OR VANILLA, INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO S/M, SPANKING, BT, TT, BODY WORSHIP. CALL ANYTIME:  
CEL: 202-607-8966

## YES SIR!!!

Muscle bottom, lean & smooth ready, eager to serve you take action page Nick 709-1467

Handsome 24y/o w/packed shorts

## SOCCER JOCK

Lean, athletic body-top/vers.  
Kevin pg# 605-5328 in/out 24/7

\*\*\*\*Bottom out in my sling!\*\*\*\*  
Masculine, muscular and dominant leatherman 6', 180 49. Endowed with 9" & defined hairy chest & big nips nice arms & a great manly smell! WS, FF, CBT uniforms, boots rimseat nip & tool pumps 4 enlargement work long sessions avail. & preferred 207 0381 www.rentboy.com/derek

## BLK TOP ALWAYS HORNY

7 years on top 8 inches on the bottom with endurance and loves his job with a loyal clientele  
Out only Cedric  
PGR VM 510-639 6576

Asian nice build Tom 415-412 7261  
<http://come.to/tom101/>

Hot x-smth Asian bottom 5'8", 140 swimr bdy bubl-butt also 4bondg fistg spankg etc. Joey 560-6353

## SKATERBOY STUD

Hung big. Aggressive- friendly nice body- handsome 6', 165# Jake (415) 998-8087 Out only

Hot straight skateboarder and BMX-Biker needs help shooting  
**HIS HUGE SCHLONG!!**  
Outcalls 415-289-6843 voicemail  
**STR8-R SK8TR**

Versatile safe easygoing smart  
**TALL SEXY BLOND LAD**  
Worth your while\* 2nd boy 540-2058

## ARE YOU LOOKIN' FOR A REAL MAN?

**LOOK NO FURTHER!**  
Bi, confident, masculine, hot stud ready for action. 31y/o, military look & naturally sexy. Hot attitude, well-built & hung TOP IN/OUT 415-376-4309

5'11"X155 smooth defined swimmers  
**MASCULIN BI GUY**  
build brn/hzl wavy handsome  
SHAVE & INTL GNT ESCORT/MASSEUR  
Will try! outcll Shaun 509-4224

Beautiful masculine Hispanic  
6'1", 180 27yrs. in/out \$75  
Luis@hm. 415-251-4574

## EROTIC NUDE MASSAGE

By good lkg, blind/bl, 6' swimmer. Friendly, sexy, tender to raunchy 100 in/more out. EZ freeway + Bart Brad (510) 418-0979 (in Berkeley)

## 22Y/O BLACKATALIAN

10 1/2 by 7 902-5591

Massage n play for gym goers n in shape n hung Italian. Ass n ball shave is included prior to a firm n erotic rub down that gets you off! 4 fun Tony 487-1959

Smooth blonde 5'7" 135 23y/o

## SXY NEW BOYTOY

Verstl in/out Jason 372-0570

Christopher \$100/out 370-4341

## RAW MUSCLEBEAR

Aggressive, passionate bottom. 37, 5'11", 235#, 48" c, 18" a, 28" thighs, 8x6. Intimidating looks w/a teddybear heart. Nick 415-595-7348 (in/Out)

## LATINO NEEDS SERVICE

Bi, good-looking top, 25yo, 6ft, 160#, smooth uncut, seeking subs to service me. In/out Antonio 415-225-8275

## BOTTOM BOY

Wild Boy

## PORN BOY

Naughty Boy

## TOY BOY

Your Boy

## CALL BOY

245-7616

## HOT SALSA

Sexy slender Latino easygoing

Out only 415 789 8094

Hot sexy Latino dream boy

6', 180 25yr Tuncut

100 845-5375

## 24/7

RENTDEREK.COM

WWW.ESCORTS4YOU.COM

GBM 9.5x6uc 415-253-8080 \$200

## 20 &amp; VERSATILE

5'8", 150 smth toned & cute in/out call Nick \$100. 219-8157

Strictly Kickback  
Oral Top

8"x6"

Hot 27yo 6'2" 190#  
415-377-4304 in/out  
p...dio lat...o.k.

## VERSATILE MAN

24 GWM 6' Solid 190lbs 32wst  
7"cut BubbleButt Clean-cut  
Masculine Affectionate IN & OUT  
PAGE ME 415-227-7727

## DADDY'S BOY

Boy-likes daddy to order him  
24yrs 5'11", 165 hot-boyish  
brown hair/eyes-great butt  
Fred 415-948-5191

**BACK TO SCHOOL**  
DUTCH, 23Y/O 6'1", 160 COLLEGE BOY  
ATHLETIC BODY BUBBLEBUTT  
415-708-4857

Small ff hands for pleasure & relief 5'8", 130# 30w lean Latin  
\$100 out SF only. Morlex 679 3320

## THE ANACONDA

BM 5'10" 150lb. 33yr. old  
11 1/2" hung escort (510) 310 7655

## RALLY DA BOYS!

BOYS R US IS BACK =)

Your old/new favorites! Latino & blond/blue bottoms & tops, kinks safe, discreet & always friendly give yourself a 1 hour vacation  
Page (415) 219-0770. Ask for Joey  
GREAT APPLICANTS WELCOME!

## ESCORT MODEL

Smooth White in shape 20 yr old male exclusively for males. 6'4", 195 blue eyes blond hair.

Available 24 hrs. 1 415 816 9401.

145lbs trim build/vers/friendly

## SXY PUNK BOY

diff scenes/ enjoys b-ing serv'd

hot fun/call Bobby/ out/ 251-1643

## SEXY IRISH BOTTOM

23yo slim smooth blond uncut

Outcalls page 790 2841

## ENGLISH LAD 23YO

Boysch, cute, slim, blond bottom

Got fantasies? 790 3773- Alex

Hot hung smooth masculine uncut

## HANDSOME LATINO

All scenes Ricco pg 540 8612

## SEXY LATINO

Eduardo 415 406 7341 Out only

## JACKHAMMER ACTION!!!

8 1/2" uncut vers. Top-brn/grn-hot  
6'2" 160# Russian- Nick 939-9112

**MUSCULAR SWIMMER**  
washboard abs  
cut chest  
big arms  
friendly  
respectful  
educated

actual 8"  
5'10, 160#  
\$150/hr  
excellent top  
Jeff Ryan  
415-317-0527

White dude 27, 6'1"x165, cute, discrete. Love older guys and Latinos. In/out Vince 225-9610

23 y/o, 5'8", 140#

## HUNG LATIN TOP

8 1/2 x 5 1/2 real inches

Marco / 24hrs @ 415 764-7686

## STRAIGHT MAN NEEDS\$\$\$

25Y/O HANDSOME MUSCULAR

6'1", 150P. BLOND/GREY EYES

OUTCALLS ONLY

540-4190

## MULATTO GUY "9"

(415) 775-4771 24-hours

## HNDSM BEAR TO SERVE!

Chase/415-820-1658/ \$85.00/ out

6ft, 270lbs. Hairy, brn/grn/goatee

fbtl player type and nice guy!

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

## ASIAN TOP

\$80/\$100 \* JIM 267-1817

Mike, 36, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu

Clean-cut, Muscle Hung

In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932

Be the happiest man alive 792-8028

## CUTE ASIAN BOY

LEATHER TOP!

Handsome, Expert Master

Light to Heavy Sensual s/m

TOM 415-487-1296

**Luke Steele**  
In/out 6'230#  
cl: 415.902.0748  
pgr: 415.201.6533

**LEATHER KINK**  
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS  
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS  
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &  
BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.  
**RICK 431-0959**

5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888

## ASIAN PORN STAR

Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out

## SIZE 12 FEET- HOT- TOP

Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#

Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out calls

## THICK DICK

I NEED EXTRA \$\$\$

GWM, Blue eyes, brown hair, 30y.o,

5'10, 175#, Proportionate, not perfect, Out only.

email: Clipper93@hotmail.com

## ~MEDITERRANEAN MAN~

Very handsome, sexy & muscular

Hard, thick, Big 9x6

Easy to be with, Into service.

Jason (415) 531-3014



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Palo Alto (650) 223-0200 San Mateo (650) 595-1199

San Francisco  
(415) **330-4888**

Browse at [www.interactivemale.com](http://www.interactivemale.com)

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All Male  
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use free access code: 6244

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TALK ABOUT THEIR FIRST TIME  
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VISA 1-800-585-HUNG (4864) M/C  
**BAY AREA GAY DATES**  
GET LAID TONIGHT • LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS  
**1-900-745-2083**  
IF YOU CAN'T GET THRU, TRY 1-900-454-3228  
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WM, well btt, 8", nds well btt men  
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  - Voice Mail
- 24 Hours  
\$2.00  
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**Free**  
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**MAN2MAN**

Join the Meetline!

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**MEET**

Live 24 hrs

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someone wants to meet you™

**GET LAID TODAY!**

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**100% MALE!!!  
100% HOT!!!**

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**CALL NOW LIVE!**

18+ only ld toll may apply



Meet MEN Right Now!

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Preview each guy before you  
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Blowjobs, etc. 415-285-8390 E04

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To sell, lotions, lubricants &  
adult toys. Have your own party  
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UH-oh, spank you! (510) 654-1122 E13

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Bad Boys Spanked over  
Daddy's Knee 864-2766 E05

### WE BUY PORN

Check your closet(s) for old maga-  
zines, model mags, videos, pho-  
tographs, calendars. We pay generous  
cash for materials. Call Patrick or  
Steve at (415) 621-1188. E10

**MONOGAMY SUCKS**  
[WWW.MYTHAITOURS.COM](http://WWW.MYTHAITOURS.COM) E04

**POWER STROKE**  
"within your reach"  
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### WANTED:PRO TOP

Successful business executive seeks  
masculine GWM 25-46 for travel and  
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appearing with social graces in public  
and an aggressive top in private. Edu-  
cation a plus. Must be available for  
extensive travel. No fats, no smoking,  
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27701-214, Houston TX 77227-  
77001 E09

Body Trim & Shave \* Castro Area  
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Daytime deep throat service for men  
given by a 61 year expert! Call Sam  
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Dad controls big guy  
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Bridge-Spring-DC  
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Bare-Assed Spanking  
Experienced, Safe: 504-7776  
[www.daddyhoward.com](http://www.daddyhoward.com) E01-2002

WM, well btt, 8", nds well btt men  
(20-37) w/firm butt to eat. 776-7472 E09

Vallejo GAM lks kissing/sucking  
69sks 20s-40s HIV- WM 707-548-8730 E13



## PEOPLE

**Meet Local Men!**  
Connect with  
**HOT SEXY LOCAL MEN!**  
TONIGHT on  
The Confidential Connection!  
Listen & Respond to personal ads! 18+  
Call 415-247-2000  
Use Access code 3981

**415-MAN-TALK**  
626-8255  
**TALK\*SEX\*PERSONALS**  
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**Tall, Dark & Huge!**  
Connect with **HOT LOCAL MEN!**  
TONIGHT on Club Voice-MALE!  
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Call 415-247-5555  
Use Access Code 1348

**415-MAN-TALK**  
626-8255  
**TALK\*SEX\*PERSONALS**  
**LTHR\*FETISH\*S/M\*KINK**  
**18+\*MC\*V\*AE\*D\*CHECKS**

**MALE CALL**  
"you get the picture"  
1.206.312.0006  
18+ LOW LD TOOL

**MEET SEXY SINGLES**  
Connect with local singles TONIGHT  
on The Confidential Connection!  
18+ Listen & Record to personal ads!  
CALL 415-247-2000  
Use Access Code 4858

Bear lookin' fer party bottoms of yer  
hankerin' for toys or fist up yer butt  
now call 752-0971

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FDA Approved vacuum pumps/surgical,  
permanent & safe. Enhance erection.Lat-  
est enlargement info: 312-409-9995 or  
900-976-pump (\$2.95 min)

Good Head in Sonoma County.  
Call Days 707-823-3895


### GOT PORN????

We buy it. Come on, we know some  
(okay all) of you queens have porn in  
some form or another around the  
house. Now's your chance to sell it  
and get your self some new stuff...new  
porn. How many times can you look  
at the same stuff? Come on, this isn't  
your husband, this is porn, you can  
get something new and not get in  
trouble. What are you waiting for?  
Check your closet(s) for old maga-  
zines, model mags, videos, pho-  
tographs, calendars. We pay generous  
cash for materials. Call Patrick or  
Steve at (415) 621-1188.

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No ads taken over the  
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question, call 415.861.5019.  
Display advertising rates  
available upon request.

### RATES

First line, Regular 4.50  
All subsequent lines 3.00  
CAPS double price  
**BOLD** double price  
**X-BOLD** triple price

### PAYMENT

☐ Cash  
☐ Personal Check  
☐ Money Order  
☐ Visa  
☐ MasterCard  
☐ American Express  
Minimum \$10 charge.

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Issues \_\_\_\_\_ Classification \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:**  
Bay Area Reporter  
395 Ninth Street  
SF, CA 94103  
**OR FAX TO:**  
415.861.8144  
**OR E-MAIL:**  
baradv@aol.com

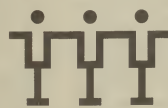




# Community

Welcome home. This is it. Where our community stays online to get news, find information, seek entertainment and reach more people, all of the time.

The Gay Network. [www.gay.com](http://www.gay.com)



GAY.COM